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The Kentucky Warbler

Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society

Vol. 99 **FEBRUARY 2023** **No. 1**

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR 3

THE FALL SEASON, AUGUST–NOVEMBER 2022
Ronan O'Carra 4

THE 123RD CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT IN KENTUCKY
James A. Wheat 20

NEWS AND VIEWS 38

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

birdky.org

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The Kentucky Warbler

The Kentucky Warbler is the journal of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. It is published quarterly in February, May, August and November, and is sent to current members. Membership dues are: Individual $25.00; Individual Contributing $35.00; Family $30.00; Family Contributing $40.00; Life $500.00 and Student $10.00. Send articles, field notes and other communications relevant to *The Kentucky Warbler* to the Editor. Send membership dues to the Treasurer. Requests for back issues should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary.

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THE COVER

We thank Mark Elkins for his photograph of the Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*) taken 26 November 2022 in Shelby County.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Birders,

This year, 2023, marks the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS). KOS was formed for everyone interested in birds. A history of the KOS is well documented on our website www.birdky.org. The goals of the Society include:

- Creating and increasing interest in Kentucky's birds
- Supporting the conservation of birds and their habitats
- Gathering and publishing information about the diversity and distribution of Kentucky's birds
- Promoting and supporting studies of Kentucky's birds
- Providing members with opportunities to learn more about birds

KOS sponsors multiple grants to attain these goals and would love to be able to fund as many applications as possible. In order to do this we need to generate funds for these endowments and are always thankful for your donations.

In the last 100 years, birding in Kentucky has changed immeasurably from the reports of Turkey Buzzard, Marsh Hawk (Vol. 1, No. 1) and "Starlings in Kentucky" (Vol. 1, No. 3) to first-in-state reports of American Oystercatcher and Pink-footed Goose in this issue. How the birds are recorded has also changed a lot, from Hummingbirds landing on "the string fastened to the shutter" of a camera (Vol. 1, No. 1) to digital cameras that shoot many photos per second and electronic devices that record the sound and "try" to identify the bird for you. Who is to say which gives the most accurate report of the bird? Just make sure that you are the one to arrive at the identification and not the apparatus.

Good Birding,

Ronan O'Carra

HISTORY OF THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Kentucky Ornithological Society was organized in Louisville, Kentucky, in April, 1923, by Dr. Gordon Wilson (an English teacher from Bowling Green), Dr. Otley Pindar (a physician from Versailles), and Mr. B.C. Bacon (a civil service man from Madisonville). Their first meeting was held at the Seelbach Hotel during the same week as the Kentucky Education Association was in session. Mr. Bacon wrote most of the first constitution, which remained in effect until it was revised in 1940, with further revisions occurring since. Dr. Pindar was elected the first President; Mr. Bacon was elected the first Vice-President, and Dr. Wilson the first Secretary-Treasurer.

An excerpt from the KOS website. Read more at www.birdky.org/koshistory.php

THE FALL SEASON, AUGUST–NOVEMBER 2022

Ronan O'Carra

Climatic conditions during the fall season were about average temperature, but with a severe lack of rainfall. Temperatures for August were about average [+0.1F (West), +0.3F (Central), +0.6F (Bluegrass), +0.4F (East)] as was September [+0.5F (West), +0.1F (Central), +0.0F (Bluegrass), -0.9F (East)]. Temperatures in October were slightly colder than average [-1.0F (West), -1.8F (Central), -1.0F (Bluegrass), -2.3F (East)] whereas November was variable [-0.8F (West), +0.9F (Central), +1.6F (Bluegrass), +1.5F (East)]. Precipitation was very low across the state for most of the season. During August it was drier in the western half of the state [-1.7in (West), -2.9in (Central), +0.6in (Bluegrass), -0.6in (East)] and the dry spell continued across the state through September [-2.9in (West), -1.4in (Central), -1.9in (Bluegrass), -2.1in (East)], October [-2.1in (West), -2.4in (Central), -2.7in (Bluegrass), -2.6in (East)], and November [-2.1in (West), -1.3in (Central), -2.9in (Bluegrass), -0.7in (East)] leading to the western half of the state to be 8 inches or more below average for the season.

Sightings are extracted mainly from eBird with supplementary records from the BirdKy LISTSERV and social media. Comments about previous Kentucky bird records rely on the *Annotated Checklist* (Palmer-Ball, Jr., 2019). The species order is based on the Kentucky State List of Birds (Wulker, 2022), with review species being capitalized and state firsts underlined. Reports of note were of a first-in-the-state Pink-footed Goose, a first-in-the-state American Oystercatcher, Black-legged Kittiwake, Anhinga, Swallow-tailed Kite, Evening Grosbeak, Harris's Sparrow, and Painted Bunting.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

Abbreviations – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the "/" symbol is used in place of "and"; "ba." next to an observer's initials indicates that the bird was banded; "ph." next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s) or video; "au." next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with an audio recording; "†" next to an observer's initials indicates that written details about identification or number were submitted with the report; "m.ob." within observer initials indicates that there were multiple observers. "pers. comm." after an observer's initials indicates that the report was personally communicated with the editor. "*fide*" indicates that it was communicated to the subsequent reporter. Location information and observer codes are listed after the report.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck – There were two reports. A new state high of 47 east of Morganfield, *Union*, 2 October (ph. †DSo) and 5 at Basil Griffin Park, *Warren*, 27 October (ph. JNn).

Snow Goose – 1 south of Hodgenville, *Larue*, 21 October (ph. BGa) was the first reported. 5,000 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 29 November (ph. CCr, DSo) was the highest number reported.

Ross's Goose – There were two reports. A continuing bird in northeast *Ballard* that continued into the winter season (ph. †SRe), and 2 in Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 29 November (DSo).

Ross's Goose – Ballard Co.
5 August 2022, Scott Record

Snow x Ross's Goose – There was one report of a single bird in Shelbyville, *Shelby*, from 20 November (ph. AHz, m.ob.).

Greater White-fronted Goose – 1 at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, 7–12 September (ph. HCh) was a record early bird. The next report was on 13 October with a flyover of 100 north of Mayfield, *Graves*, (ph. TMc). 3,000 at Sauerheber, 29 November (DSo) was the highest number reported.

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE – Confirmed by KBRC. In a first-in-the-state report, a single bird was well seen on Lake Shelby and a number of areas around Shelbyville, *Shelby*, 16 November through the end of the season (ph. †LAu, m.ob.). It was last reported there on 26 November but was subsequently relocated in *Jessamine* in December.

Cackling Goose – There was one report of a single bird at Audubon Wetlands, *Henderson*, 3 November (DSo).

TRUMPETER SWAN – KBRC review required. There was one report of 3 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 21 November (†DSo).

Tundra Swan – 13 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 15 November (†CCr) were the first reported. 67 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 21 November (†DSo) was the highest number reported.

Blue-winged Teal – 10 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 19 August (†SRe) were the first reported. 110 at the same location on 10 September (DSo) was the highest number reported.

Northern Shoveler – Up to 10 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 10 September (HCh, BPa) were the first reported.

Gadwall – 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 1 September (†BPa) was the first reported. 500 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 19 November (DSo) was the highest number reported.

American Wigeon – 1 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 24 September (JWh) was the first reported.

American Wigeon – Shelby Co.
20 November 2022, Bruce Miller

Northern Pintail – 1 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 20 September (ph. RGr) was the first reported.

Green-winged Teal – 2 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 1 September (BPa) were the first reported. 200 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 22 October (JEm) was the highest number reported.

Canvasback – First reported on 20 November with 1 at Clifty Pond, *Pulaski*, (RDe) and 3 on the Ohio River, *Jefferson*, (BWr).

Redhead – First reported on 1 November with 2 at Mahr Park Arboretum, *Hopkins*, (NRo) and 1 on Barren River Lake, *Barren*, (DBl, RRo, DSo).

Ring-necked Duck – 2 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 16 October (KWi) were the first reported.

Greater Scaup – 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville, *Jefferson*, 13 November (JWh) was the first reported.

Lesser Scaup – A single bird continued at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, with it being last reported on 1 October (m.ob.). 1 at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, 1 August (ph. †HCh) was a second early season bird. Continual reports of the species at multiple locations started from 1 November with 3 at Sandy Lee Watkins Co. Park, *Henderson*, (ph. CCr) and 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, (JBa).

Black Scoter – There were two reports. 1 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 12 November (†RDe) and 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 17 November (†BPa, DSo, ENa) which continued into the winter season.

Bufflehead – First reported on 9 November with 1 at the Lexington Reservoirs, *Fayette*, (BWa, KBu) and 1 on the Ohio River, *Jefferson*, (SBr, MBr).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – Boone Co.
26 September 2022, Travis Young

Common Goldeneye – 2 at Campbellsville Reservoir, *Taylor*, 12 November (ph. RDe) were the first reported.

Hooded Merganser – Having been reported in the summer, fall reports were not recorded until 6 November with 6 in north Calvert City, *Marshall*, (JTe); 2 at Kendell Rec. Area, *Russell*, (AHi, ph. MAu); and 3 at Audubon Wetlands, *Henderson*, (JFa).

Common Merganser – There were two reports. 10 at Whitesburg, *Letcher*, 19 August (†ESc) and 3 on the Red River, *Powell*, 23 October (ph. RBe pers. comm.).

Red-breasted Merganser – 1 on Kentucky Lake, *Calloway*, 3 November (HCh) was the first reported.

Ruddy Duck – 1 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 31 October (JBs) was the first reported.

Ruffed Grouse – There was one report of 2 north of Cumberland, *Letcher*, 23 October (DBo).

Pied-billed Grebe – 55 at Waitsboro Rec. Area, *Pulaski*, 12 November (RDe) was the highest number reported.

Horned Grebe – 1 at Barren River Lake WMA, *Allen*, 15 October (ph. RSh) was the first reported.

Eared Grebe – Up to 2 were reported at their regular location at Wolf Creek Dam, *Russell*, from 12 November (†LBo, m.ob.).

White-winged Dove – There were three reports. 1 in *Shelby* on August 29 (ph. RTs pers. comm.); 1 in north *Fayette* on 22 September (†MFn); and 1 north of Murray, *Calloway*, 25 October (ph. †JMs).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 1 in northwest *Pulaski* on 23 October (ph. RDe) was the last reported.

Black-billed Cuckoo – 1 in Deer Haven Park, *Fayette*, 18 September (JSp) was the last reported.

Common Nighthawk – 1 in Berea, *Madison*, 6 October (KHe) was the last reported.

Eastern Whip-poor-will – 1 west of Tracy, *Barren*, 22 September (JBe) was the last reported.

Chimney Swift – 595 at the roost in downtown Lexington, *Fayette*, 12 August (†DLa, m.ob.) was the highest number reported. 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 24 October (JFa) was the last reported.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird – Last reported on 24 October with 1 in Henderson, *Henderson*, (ph. DSo) and 1 west of Science Hill, *Pulaski*, (RDe).

Rufous Hummingbird – There were four reports. A hatch-year (HY) male in Lexington, *Fayette*, 12 October–29 November (†LSh, ph. ROc, ba. BPa, m.ob.); a HY female in southwest *Jefferson* 17 October–23 November (†LRo, ph. ba. †PBa, m.ob.); a HY female north of Livermore, *McLean*, 31 October into the winter season (ph. TLo pers. comm., ba. †BPa, m.ob.); and a HY female in Stanford, *Lincoln*, 5 November–1 December (†JSo, ph. ba. †BPa, m.ob.).

Virginia Rail – There were five reports from 4 counties. 1 at Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*, 3 August (†TGr); 1 at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS, *Larue*, 1 October (ph. BGa); 1 at Hisle Farm Park, *Fayette*, 29 October–10 November (ph. RGr, m.ob.); 2 south of Rockport, *Muhlenberg*, 10 November (†BPa); and 1 north of Geneva, *Henderson*, 13 November (†KMi).

Sora – Reported in *Henderson*, *Jefferson*, *Muhlenberg*, and *Franklin*. 1 at Beckley Creek Park, *Jefferson*, 24 October (PBl) was the last reported.

American Coot – 1 at Former Camp #11 Mine, *Union*, 5 August (†BPa) was probably continuing from the summer. The first migrants reported were 5 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 4 October (SBy).

Sandhill Crane – 2 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 26 October (STn) were the first reported. 1200 flying over Douglass Hills, *Jefferson*, 30 November (MYa) was the highest number reported.

Black-necked Stilt – Only reported at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, with the last report being on 16 August (TGr).

American Avocet – There were seven reports. Up to 7 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 18/19 August (ph. †BPa, m.ob./†DSt, m.ob.); 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 23 August (†RRo); 1 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 5–8 September (ph. †DSo, m.ob.); 2 in north *Union* on 7 September (ph. CCr); 1 southwest of Henderson, *Henderson*, 3–5 October (ph. DSo, m.ob.); 1 at the Tennessee River at Calvert City, *Marshall*, 18–22 October (ph. †JTe, m.ob.); and 1 on Green River Lake, *Adair*, 7 November (ph. RDe).

Virginia Rail – Fayette Co.
9 November 2022, Toby Darpel

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER – Confirmed by KBRC. In a surprising first-in-the-state report, an adult and a juvenile were reported at The Narrows area of Barren River Lake, *Barren*, 31 October (ph. †JBa, BPa, m.ob.). The adult was later picked up by a KDFWR officer south of Annville, *Jackson*, 2 November (ph. †EWe) and perished despite veterinary intervention.

Black-bellied Plover – There were five reports. 2 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 12 August (†DSo); 1 at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, 2/6 September (HCh); 4 and 1 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 15 September/2 October (HCh, MEa/DSo); 4 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 8 October (GHe, MEa); and 2 at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, 16 October (HCh).

American Golden-Plover – First reported on 25 August with 1 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, (ph. DLa) and 2 at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, (HCh). 1 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 21 October (†MEa) was the last reported.

Semipalmated Plover – 2 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 23 October (MEa, HCh) were the last reported.

Stilt Sandpiper – 15 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 5 August (BPa) was the highest number reported. Last reported on 24 September with 1 on the Mississippi River south of Wickliffe, *Carlisle*, (DSo); 11 at Little River Embayment, *Trigg*, (JWh); and 2 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, (JWh).

Sanderling – Fayette Co.
15 September 2022, David Lang

Sanderling – There were reports from five counties. 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 5 September (ph. DBl, PBl) was the first reported with 3 being reported there the next day (BPa); 1 at Little River Embayment, *Trigg*, 10 September (DSo, †BPa); 1 at Fishing Creek Rec. Area, *Pulaski*, 13 September (ph. RDe); 1 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 15–20 September (QTh, ph. †JGf, m.ob.); and 2 at Laketon Boat Ramp, *Carlisle*, 24 September (ph. DSo) with 1 more north of that location on the same day (DSo).

Dunlin – 1 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 17 October (HCh) was the first reported. A few lingered into the winter season.

Semipalmated Plover – Rowan Co.
4 September 2022, Colin Fisher

Baird's Sandpiper – 1 at Pfeiffer Fish Hatchery, *Franklin*, 15 August (GSp) was the first reported. 1 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 15 September (DSo) was the last reported.

Least Sandpiper – 145 at Clear Creek, *Marshall*, 4 November (†HCh) was the highest number reported. A few lingered into the winter season.

White-rumped Sandpiper – 1 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 1 September (†BPa) was the first reported. 1 northwest of Glasgow, *Barren*, 1 November (ph. JSo) was the last reported.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper – 1–2 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 31 August–19 September (ph. †DSo, KMi, m.ob.) were the first reported. 2 at the Louisville Landfill, *Jefferson*, 5 October (ph. †DMs, SFl) were the last reported.

Pectoral Sandpiper – 100+ at Little River Embayment, *Trigg*, 10 September (†BPa) was the highest number reported. 1 at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, 21 November–3 December (†MEa, ph. HCh) was the last reported.

Semipalmated Sandpiper – 1 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, last reported on 1 October (DSv, ph. JWh, m.ob.) was the last report of the season.

Western Sandpiper – There were four reports. 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 12–23 August (†DSo, RRo); 3 at Eddy Creek Embayment, *Lyon*, 9 September (BPa); 1 at Little River Embayment, *Trigg*, 10/13 September (†BPa/TGr, HCh); 1 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, 1 October (DSv, JWh, LCo).

Short-billed Dowitcher – 1 at Little River Embayment, *Trigg*, 10/13 September (†BPa/TGr, HCh) was the last reported.

Long-billed Dowitcher – 1 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 31 August (ph. DSo, KMi) was the first reported. 1 at Wilmore-Y Ponds, *Jessamine*, 13 November (KBi) was the last reported.

Wilson's Snipe – 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 13 August (ph. DSo) was the first reported. 50 at Casey Creek Embayment, *Adair*, 12 November (†RDe) was the highest number reported.

Spotted Sandpiper – 1 at Newburgh Dam, *Henderson*, 19 November (ph. JEm, DSo) was the last reported.

Solitary Sandpiper – 1 Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 30 October (ph. RDe) was the last reported.

Lesser Yellowlegs – 75 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 5/9 August (ph. †BPa/ph. †DSo) was the highest number reported. 3 at Lake Linville, *Rockcastle*, 11 November (CFo, VBu) were the last reported.

Willet – There were reports from two counties. In *Jefferson*, single birds were reported at South Beargrass Creek Retention Basin on 4 August (PSp) and Hays Kennedy Park on 27 August (CCu). In *Henderson*, up to 2 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs on 5/6 August (ph. †BPa/ph. TGr, DSo); up to 4 at the same location on 23/25 August (ph. †RRo/†DSo); and 1 at Sand Slough on 1 September (†RRo).

Greater Yellowlegs – 37 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 27 August (†DSo) was the highest number reported. A single bird persisted to the end of the season at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 24–29 November (†DSv, m.ob.).

Wilson's Phalarope – There were two reports. 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 2/27–28 August (†DSo) and 1 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 31 August/15 September (†DSo, KMi/DSo).

Red-necked Phalarope – There was one report of a single bird at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 16 August (ph. TGr, DSo).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 26 October (†DBl).

Bonaparte's Gull – 5 at Lake Barkley SRP, *Trigg*, 13 October (LSt) were the first reported.

Bonaparte's Gull – Franklin Co.
12 November 2022, Rob Chadwick

Laughing Gull – There were two reports. 1 at KY Dam Visitors Area, *Livingston*, 17 September (†DSo) and 1 on Kentucky Lake, *Marshall*, 24 September (JWh, †BPa).

Franklin's Gull – There were four reports. 1 at Sledd Creek Boat Ramp, *Marshall*, 2 October (DSo); 4 or 5 in Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 26 October, (†JPo, ph. HCh, JPl); 1 at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, 31 October (HCh); and 1 on the Ohio River, *Jefferson*, 18 November (†BPa, DBl).

Herring Gull – 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 11 August (CBe) was the first reported.

Lesser Black-backed Gull – 1 on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 9 September (BPa) was the first reported. All reports were from western Kentucky.

Least Tern – 12 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 4 September (ph. RCr) were the last reported. All reports were from western Kentucky.

Caspian Tern – Last reported on 24 September with 3 on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, (BPa, m.ob.) and 1 at Kuttawa Park, *Lyon*, (JWh, JPo).

Black Tern – 1 on the Mississippi River, *Carlisle*, 24 September (DSo) was the last reported.

Common Tern – Allen Co.
15 October 2022, Rickey Shive

Common Tern – There were two reports. 1 at Sledd Creek Boat Ramp, *Marshall*, 10 October (DSo) and 1 at Barren River Lake WMA, *Allen*, 15 October (ph. RSh).

Forster's Tern – 114 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 4 November (†HCh) was the highest number reported. 1 at Barren River Lake SRP, *Barren*, 10 November (†LCr) was a late report away from known wintering areas on the western lakes.

Common Loon – 143 at Barren River Lake, *Allen*, 9 November (TDu) was the highest number reported.

ANHINGA – KBRC review required. There were two reports. 1 at Eddy Creek Embayment, *Lyon*, 12 August (†CCa) and 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 8 October (†GHe).

American White Pelican – 1 on Kentucky Lake, *Calloway*, 19 August (HCh) was the first reported. 500 on Little River Embayment, *Trigg*, 23 September (BPa) was the highest number reported.

American Bittern – There was one report of a single bird at Caperton Swamp Park, *Jefferson*, 8 October (ph. ITh, STh).

Least Bittern – There was one report of a single bird at Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*, 3 August (ph. TGr).

Great Egret – Reported across the state away from the Cumberland Plateau. 450 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 25 August (†DSo) was the highest number reported.

Snowy Egret –1 on Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 24 September (JWh) was the last reported.

Little Blue Heron – 100+ reported across *Henderson* on 28 August (ph. CCr, KMi, †DSo). 2 at Sledd Creek Boat Ramp, *Marshall*, 10 October (DSo) were the last reported.

Cattle Egret – 140 at KY Lake Dam, *Marshall*, 9 September (†BPa) were the last reported.

Green Heron – 1 at Wood Creek Lake, *Laurel*, 14 November (AKa) was the last reported.

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 21 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 16 August (TBe) was the highest number reported and individuals continued in *Jefferson* into the winter season.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – 1 northwest of Paducah, *McCracken*, 19 September (SRe) was the last reported.

White Ibis – There was one report of 5 immature birds at Otter Pond, *Caldwell*, 3 August (ph. †DRe, DSo).

Glossy/White-faced Ibis – There were two reports. 4 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 13 September (ph. HCh) with 1 there on 15 September (†MEa, ph. HCh) and 3 north of Calvert City, *Marshall*, 23 September (ph. †JTe, BPa).

Osprey – One at Reformatory Lake, *Oldham*, 28 November (APe) was the last reported.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE – KBRC review required. There were two reports. 2 east of Hundred Acre Pond, *Hart*, 1 August (NTr *fide* BPa) and 1 or 2 in southwest Louisville, *Jefferson*, 22–24 August (ph. LMe, m.ob.).

Swallow-tailed Kite – Jefferson Co.
23 August 2022, Steve Brown

Northern Harrier– 41 at a roost near Schochoh, *Logan*, 19 November (ph. †STy, DTy) was the highest number reported.

Bald Eagle – 18 in west *Carlisle* on 10 September (†BPa) was the highest number reported.

Mississippi Kite – 1 at Reidland, *McCracken*, 8 September (KSm) was the last reported.

Broad-winged Hawk – 303 and likely more over Louisville, *Jefferson*, 20 September (†MMo) was the highest number reported. Last reported on 29 October with 1 west of Owensboro, *Daviess*, (RRo) and 2 at Carter Caves SRP, *Carter*, 29 October (EGr).

White Ibis – Caldwell Co.
3 August 2022, Daniel Redwine

Barn Owl – Birds were reported from *Logan*, *Muhlenberg*, *Mercer*, *Jefferson*, and *Franklin*.

Short-eared Owl – 3 north of Schochoh, *Logan*, 19 November (†DTy, STy) were the first reported

Northern Saw-whet Owl – The banding station in northeast *Jefferson* banded 3 birds (†MMo, BPa, m.ob.) for the season, which was one of the lowest seasonal numbers at this location. A bird banded there on 17 November 2020 was recaptured 90 miles west-northwest of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on 26 October (MMo *fide* BPa). There were two other reports; 1 in north Independence, *Kenton*, 19 October, (PMc *fide* KCi) and 1 or 2 in east *Fayette* on 29 October (†DSv, NBr, LCo).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – 1 at Pine Mountain SRP, *Bell*, 18 September (†BBn) was the first reported.

Great Crested Flycatcher – Last reported on 24 September with 2 at John James Audubon SP, *Henderson*, (†KMi) and 1 at Waterfront Park, *Jefferson*, (MPo).

Eastern Kingbird – 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 27 October (†CCu) was a tardy bird with the previous reported to this being 1 at Deer Lake, *Scott*, 6 October (GSu).

Olive-sided Flycatcher – 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 28 August (ph. STy, DTy) was the first reported. 1 at Berea, *Madison*, 24 September (†RBa, RFo) was the last reported.

Eastern Wood-Pewee – 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 26 October (†AMo) was the last reported.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher – 1 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 19 August (ph. †NBr, MBr, SBr) was the first reported. 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 21 October (†BPa) was a record late sighting for the species, the previous report to this was 1 at Harrods Creek Park, *Jefferson*, 26 September (†PBl).

Acadian Flycatcher – 1 east of Masonville, *Daviess*, 29 September (CRr) was the last reported.

Alder/Willow (Traill's) Flycatcher – 1 west of Burgin, *Mercer*, 18 September (†SPe) was a tardy bird.

Least Flycatcher – 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 6 August (†DTy, STy) was the first reported. 1 at Cross Keys Park, *Fayette*, 8 October (†TBr) was the last reported.

White-eyed Vireo – 1 at Berea, *Madison*, 23 October (RBa, ph. RFo) was the last reported.

Bell's Vireo – 3 at Sandy Lee Watkins Co. Park, *Henderson*, 5 September (ph. au. CCr) were the last reported.

Yellow-throated Vireo – 1 at Paintsville Lake, *Johnson*, 8 October (CVa) was the last reported.

Blue-headed Vireo – 1 east of Danville, *Garrard*, 4 November (DPa) was the last reported.

Philadelphia Vireo – 1 at Broad Run Park, *Jefferson*, 16 August (†PBl) was an early report. 13 at Caperton Swamp Park, *Jefferson*, 29 September (†PBl) is a new state high count. 1 at Horse Cave, *Hart*, 24 October (†JRs) was a late sighting for the species.

Warbling Vireo – 1 northeast of Munfordville, *Hart*, 10 October (†SKi) was the last reported.

Red-eyed Vireo – 1 south of Stanford, *Lincoln*, 11 October (NKi) was the last reported.

Fish Crow – 2 southeast of Hickman, *Fulton*, 16 November (†MGr) were the last reported.

Bank Swallow – 750 northeast of Uniontown, *Union*, 13 August (†DSo) was the highest number reported. 1 on the Mississippi in west *Carlisle* on 24 September (DSo) was the last reported.

Tree Swallow – 800 east of Russell Springs, *Russell*, 6 September (†AHi) was the highest number reported. 4 at Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 6 November (†KMi) were the last reported.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 300 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 17 September (SRe) was the highest number reported. 4 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 24 October (GWa, RHi) were the last reported.

Bell's Vireo – Henderson Co.
5 September 2022, Charlie Crawford

Purple Martin – The *Jefferson* roost (m.ob.) was again the largest of the Kentucky roosts. 4 at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, 17 September (†GSp) were the last reported.

Barn Swallow – 110 at University of Kentucky, CAFE, Research Farm, *Fayette*, 16 August (†CFi) was the highest number reported. 1 in west *Jefferson* on 25 October (MHu) was the last reported.

Cliff Swallow – 100 northwest of Paducah, *McCracken*, 3 August (SRe) was the highest number reported. 1 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, 1 October (†DSv, JWh) was the last reported.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 1 at Prospect, *Jefferson*, 15 September (WAh) was the first reported.

Golden-crowned Kinglet – 1 west of Science Hill, *Pulaski*, 23 September (†AAn) was the first reported.

Cedar Waxwing – 250 at Lake Liberty, *Casey*, 5 November (ph. RDe) was the highest number reported.

Red-breasted Nuthatch – 1 in west Lexington, *Fayette*, 26 August (MEr) was the first reported. 50 at KY Dam Village SRP., *Marshall*, 6 November (au. †JTe) was the highest number reported.

Brown-headed Nuthatch – Reported at the known location in London, *Laurel*, (m.ob.) through the season.

Brown Creeper – 2 at Beargrass Creek State Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, 30 September (†CWz) were the first reported.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 16 October (DTy, ph. STy) was the last reported.

House Wren – Most had gone by the first week of November with a small number of reports into late November and early December.

Winter Wren – 1 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 28 September (au. †JFa) was the first reported.

Sedge Wren – 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 25 November (au. †BPa) was a late sighting for the species.

Marsh Wren – 1 at University of KY Arboretum and Woods, *Fayette*, 3–12 September (†MFn, ph. ROc, m.ob.) was the first reported. 1 in north *Franklin* on 23 November (†JBn, JFy) was the last reported.

Marsh Wren – Fayette Co.
11 September 2022, Tommy Quarles

Veery – 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 28 August (ph. †CBe, m.ob.) was the first reported. 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 27 September (HNs) was the last reported.

Gray-cheeked Thrush – 1 at Cedar Hill Church, *Edmonson*, 31 August (ph. RSh) was the first seen. 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 16 October (au. STy, DTy) was the last reported.

Swainson's Thrush – 1 at South Beargrass Creek Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 30 August (DBl) was the first seen. 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 1 November (†CCs) was the last reported.

Hermit Thrush – 1 at Garvin Brown Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, 28 September (MKo) was the first reported.

Wood Thrush – 3 at Mammoth Cave, *Edmonson*, 26 October (†AMo) were the last reported.

American Pipit – 4 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 22 September (DBl) were the first reported.

Evening Grosbeak – Hancock Co.
31 October 2022, William Stewart

EVENING GROSBEAK – KBRC review required. There were five reports. 1 southwest of Hawesville, *Hancock*, 31 October (ph. †JSe); 1 in Morgantown, *Butler*, 13 November (ph. †NCa); 1 in north *Scott* on 13 November (ph. MSi pers. comm.); 1 in the Alexandria area, *Campbell*, 14–18 November (ph. †TFg, m.ob.); and 1 in east *Fayette* on 19 November (†KRu).

Purple Finch – There was a decent influx this season. 1 north of Berea, *Madison*, 24 September (KHe) was the first reported.

Pine Siskin – 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 18 October (DTy, STy) was the first reported.

Lapland Longspur – 2 at University of Kentucky, CAFE, Research Farm, *Fayette*, 17 November (au. †MFn) were the first reported. 75 northwest of Cropper, *Shelby*, 26 November (ph. †BPa) was the highest number reported.

Grasshopper Sparrow – 1 at Haley Downs Dr., *Fayette*, 30 October (†MFn) was the last reported.

Clay-colored Sparrow – There were two reports. 1 at South Beargrass Creek Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 13 September (ph. †DBl, m.ob.) and 1 in northern Kentucky on 8 October (ph. CGn pers. comm.).

Fox Sparrow – 1 in north *Fayette* on 13 October (†DLa) was the first reported.

American Tree Sparrow – 1 in east *Fayette* on 2 November (JSp) was the first reported.

Dark-eyed Junco – The first reports away from known breeding grounds were on 23 September with 2 at South Beargrass Creek Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, (ph. PSp) and 1 at Green Turtle Bay, *Livingston*, (†TGr).

White-crowned Sparrow – 1 at Garvin Brown Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, 26 September (†MKo) was the first reported.

HARRIS'S SPARROW – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird at Petersburg Cemetery, *Boone*, first reported on 14 November (ph. KCi, JCi) and was reported into the winter season.

Harris's Sparrow – Boone Co.
14 November 2022, Kathy Caminiti

White-throated Sparrow – 1 at University of KY Arboretum, *Fayette*, 14 September (†MFn, ph. KBu) was the first reported.

Vesper Sparrow – 1 east of Harrodsburg, *Mercer*, 18 September (†SPe) was the first reported. 1 north of Caneyville, *Grayson*, 16 November (†JBe) was the last reported.

LeConte's Sparrow – There were two reports. 1 east of Morganfield, *Union*, 7 October (ph. JSs) and 2 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 22 October (ph. †DSo, m.ob.).

Nelson's Sparrow – There were two reports. 1 east of Harrodsburg, *Mercer*, 5 October (†SPe) and 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 15/22 October (†DSo/ph. †DSo, m.ob.).

Henslow's Sparrow – 1 in east *Fayette* on 3 September (JSp) was the last reported.

Lincoln's Sparrow – 1 at Long Run Park, *Jefferson*, 16 September (ph. †KFl) was the first reported. Last reported on 18 November with 1 at Lake Shelby Park, *Shelby*, (†GDo) and 1 downstream from University of KY Arboretum, *Fayette*, (†MFn).

Swamp Sparrow – 1 at South Beargrass Creek Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 23 September (ph. †DBl) was the first reported. 200 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 22 October (DSo, m.ob.) was the highest number reported.

Yellow-breasted Chat – 1 at Western KY University Agricultural Center, *Warren*, 14 October (†BFe) was a late sighting for the species. The previous report to this was 1 east of Scottsville, *Barren*, 1 October (ph. †BBn).

Bobolink – 60 east of Harrodsburg, *Mercer*, 16 September (SPe) was the highest number reported. 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 9 October (BPa) was the last reported.

Orchard Oriole – 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 3 September (MCa, m.ob.) was the last reported.

Baltimore Oriole – 1 at John James Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 16 October (†KMi) was the last reported.

Rusty Blackbird – 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 26 October (RHi) was the first reported. 300 south of Liberty, *Casey*, 11 November (ph. †MAu) was the highest number reported.

Brewer's Blackbird – 7 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 3 November (ph. †STy) were the first reported.

Ovenbird – 1 at Louisville Zoo, *Jefferson*, 27 October (†JMn) was the last reported.

Worm-eating Warbler – 1 at Barren Fork DBNF, *McCreary*, 7 October (†MEr) was a late sighting for the species.

Louisiana Waterthrush – 1 northeast of Waynesburg, *Lincoln*, 25 August (NKi) was the last reported.

Northern Waterthrush – 1 at Metropolis Lake Nature Preserve, *McCracken*, 28 August (SRe) was the first seen. 1 at Putney Pond, *Jefferson*, 1 November (ph. †KBk) was a late report for the species.

Golden-winged Warbler –1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 8 October (†GHe) was the last reported.

Blue-winged Warbler – 1 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 2 October (KFl, CCs) was the last reported.

Black-and-white Warbler – 1 at Jeffreys Cliffs Conservation & Rec. Area, *Hancock*, 15 October (KMi) was the last reported.

Prothonotary Warbler – 1 at Pond Bayou, *Henderson*, 26 September (†DSo) was the last reported.

Swainson's Warbler – There were two reports. 1 west of Greenville, *Muhlenberg*, 11 September (†TGr) and 1 northeast of New Concord, *Calloway*, 20 September (†DSi), both of which were late sightings for the species.

Ovenbird – Metcalfe Co.
18 September 2022, Rickey Shive

Tennessee Warbler – First reported on 23 August with 1 at South Beargrass Creek Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, (ph. DBl) and 1 at Wellington Park, *Fayette*, (ph RGr). 1 in Madisonville, *Hopkins*, 20 November (†DSk) was a late sighting for the species.

Orange-crowned Warbler – 1 at William F. Miles Park, *Jefferson*, 15 September (†PBl) was the first reported.

Nashville Warbler – 2 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 27 August (SBr, MBr) were the first reported. Last reported on 28 October with 1 at Beckley Creek Park, *Jefferson*, (CCu) and 1 in Fort Wright, *Kenton*, (ELd).

Connecticut Warbler – There were five reports. 1 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 28 August (†PBl); 1 at University of KY Arboretum, *Fayette*, 3 September (†MFn, KBu); 1 at Beckley Creek Park, *Jefferson*, 6 September (†PBl); 1 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 14 September (au. †WOs); and 1 at Sally Brown Nature Preserve, *Garrard*, 6 October (ph. †JBs).

Mourning Warbler – 1 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 28 August (†PBl) was the first reported. 1 in Berea, *Madison*, 15–16 October (†RFo, RBa) was a relatively late report for the species.

Kentucky Warbler – 1 at Stuart Nelson Park Nature Trail, *McCracken*, 8 October (†AWe, BLs, MLs) was a late report for the species.

Common Yellowthroat – 1 north of Geneva, *Henderson*, 13 November (†KMi) was the last reported.

Hooded Warbler – 1 at Taylorsville Lake Marina, *Spencer*, 9 October (LCr) was the last reported.

American Redstart – 1 at Barren River Lake WMA, *Allen*, 15 October (ph. RSh) was the last reported.

Cape May Warbler – 1 in east *Jefferson* on 24 August (†JEl) was the first reported. 1 at Douglass Hills, *Jefferson*, 4 November (†MYa) was a late sighting for the species.

Cerulean Warbler – 1 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 5 September (ph. †RDe) was the last reported.

Northern Parula – 1 at Western KY University Agricultural Center, *Warren*, 17 October (BFe) was the last reported.

Magnolia Warbler – 1 in Somerset, *Pulaski*, 17 August (ph. †EWe) was the first reported. 1 at Clarks River NWR, *Marshall*, 26 October (†HCh, JPo, JPl) was the last reported.

Bay-breasted Warbler – 1 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 19 August (†SBr, MBr, NBr) was the first reported. 1 west of Munfordville, *Hart*, 6 November (†SKi) was the last reported.

Blackburnian Warbler – 1 in east *Jefferson* on 13 August (ph. JEl) was the first reported. Last reported on 15 October with 3 at Barren River Lake WMA, *Allen*, (ph. †RSh) and 1 at KY Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Headquarters, *Franklin*, (TSh).

Yellow Warbler – 1 northwest of McKee, *Jackson*, 30 September (MKy) was the last reported.

Chestnut-sided Warbler – First reported on 18 August with 2 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, (†MBr, SBr) and 1 at Meadow Creek WMA, *Wayne*, (ph. EWe, BWs). 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 21 October (†BPa) was the last reported.

Blackpoll Warbler – 1 in Paris, *Bourbon*, 14 September (†ANn) was the first reported. 1 at Harrods Creek Park, *Jefferson*, 24 October (†WAh) was the last reported.

Black-throated Blue Warbler – 1 west of Georgetown, *Scott*, 9 September (†DLa) was the first reported. Last reported on 16 October with 1 at Raven Run Nature Sanctuary, *Fayette*, (†SPe) and 1 in Berea, *Madison*, (†RFo, RBa).

Palm Warbler – 1 west of Walton, *Boone*, 2 September (†TYo) was the first reported.

Pine Warbler – 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 16 November (PBl) was the last reported.

Yellow-rumped Warbler – 2 at Fishing Creek Rec. Area, *Pulaski*, 22 September (†RDe) were the first reported.

Yellow-throated Warbler – 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 16 October (†DTy, ph. STy) was the last reported.

Prairie Warbler – 1 in central Lexington, *Fayette*, 27 October (†MFn) was the last reported.

Black-throated Green Warbler – 1 in Madisonville, *Hopkins*, 14–15 November (†DSk) was a record late sighting for the species.

Canada Warbler – First reported on 20 August with 1 at Wellington Park, *Fayette*, (ph. †RGr) and 1 west of Science Hill, *Pulaski*, (RDe). 2 at Western KY University Agricultural Center, *Warren*, 5 October (†BFe) were the last reported.

Wilson's Warbler – 1 in Bowling Green, *Warren*, 19 August (ph. †RSh) was the first reported. 1 south of Windsor, *Russell*, 18 October (†AHi) was the last reported.

Summer Tanager – 1 east of Hodgenville, *Larue*, 24 October (ph. †RMe) was the last reported.

Scarlet Tanager – 1 west of Science Hill, *Pulaski*, 29 October (†RDe) was a tardy bird.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak – 75 west of Science Hill, *Pulaski*, 5 October (†RDe) was the largest number of the season and was one of the highest numbers ever reported in the state. 1 at Western KY University Agricultural Center, *Warren*, 29 October (†BFe) was the last reported.

Blue Grosbeak – Last reported on 15 October with 1–2 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, (DSo, †JFa) and 1 east of Harrodsburg, *Mercer*, (SPe).

Indigo Bunting – 1 at Barren River Lake SRP, Barren, 31 October (†JBa) was the last reported.

PAINTED BUNTING – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single female at Muhlenberg Co. Rail Trail, *Muhlenberg*, 26 September (†TGr).

Dickcissel – 1 south of Russellville, *Logan*, 17 November (ph. †FLy) was the last reported.

Wilson's Warbler – Jefferson Co.
29 September 2022, Michael Autin

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LOCATIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS (*Italics* indicate a county name)

Most locations are based on their eBird Hotspot Name

Casey Creek Embayment = Casey Creek Embayment of Green River Lake
Crappie Hollow = Upper reaches of Blood River Embayment of Kentucky Lake
DBNF = Daniel Boone National Forest
Eddy Creek Embayment = Eddy Creek Embayment of Lake Barkley
Falls of the Ohio = Falls of the Ohio National Wildlife Conservation Area, Indiana, but viewing into the Kentucky side.
Jonathan Creek Embayment = Jonathan Creek Embayment of Kentucky Lake
Little River Embayment = Little River Embayment of Lake Barkley
NP = National Park
Sauerheber = Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit
SP = State Park
WMA = Wildlife Management Area

KEY TO OBSERVER CODES

AAn – Anonymous
AHi – Asher Higgins
AHz – Allison Henze
AKa – Albert Kayser
AMo – Alan Moss
ANn – Audry Nicklin
APe – Anna Perry
AWe – Amanda Weaver
BBn – Barbara Brand
BFe – Blaine Ferrell
BGa – Brenda Gaddie
BLs – Ben Lewis
BPa – Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.
BWr – Barbara Woerner
BWs – Benjamin Wells
CBe – Carol Besse
CCa – Cade Campbell
CCr – Charlie Crawford
CCs – Carol Challas
CCu – Chris Curl
CFi – Colin Fisher
CFo – Catherine Ford
CGn – Carla Tomlinson Ginn
CRr – Catherine Rogier
CVa – Carla Vanderbilt
CWz – C Walz
DBl – David Bailey
DBo – Dale Bonk
DLa – David Lang
DMs – Derrick Mason
DPa – Daniel Patrick
DRe – Daniel Redwine
DSi – Damien Simbeck
DSk – Donna Stricklin
DSo – David Stone
DSt – Del Striegel
DSv – David Svetich
DTy – Debby Tyson
EGr – Ed Groneman
ELd – Edna Lindemann
ENa – Eric Nally
ESc – Erica Scaramuzza
EWe – Ethan Wells
FLy – Frank Lyne
FRe – Frank Renfrow
GDo – Gary Dorman
GHe – Garett Hodne
GSp – Gary Sprandel
GSu – Greg Survant
GWa – Greg Walker
HCh – Hap Chambers
HNs – Helen Nesius
ITh – Indira Thirkannad
JBa – Jamie Baker
JBe – Jamin Beachy
JBn – Joyce Bender
JBs – Jeremy Burns
JCi – Joey Caminiti
JEl – Jackie Elmore
JEm – Jarred Emmack
JFa – Julia Farmer
JFy – Joyce Fry
JGf – Jenna Garofolo
JJc – Jessica Jacobs
JMn – James McKinney
JMs – Jennifer Miles
JNn – Jodi Nielson
JPl – John S Powell
JPo – Josh Powell
JRs – Jeffrey Rose
JSe – Joshua Stewart
JSo – Jeff Sole
JSp – Josh Stapleton
JSs – Josh Smith
JTe – Jeremy Teague
JWh – James Wheat
KBi – Kyle Bixler
KBu – Katey Buster
KBk – Katie Burke
KCi – Kathy Caminiti
KFl – Kevin Flowers
KHe – Kate Houlne
KMi – Keith Michalski
KRu – Karla Rutledge
KSm – Karen Smith
KWi – Karol Wilson
LAu – Lori Ault
LBo – Lyle Bontrager
LCr – Linda Craiger
LMe – Linda Metro

LRo – Leisa Royse
LSh – Lou Shain
LSt – Larry Sutterer
MAu – Michael Autin
MBr – Meg Brown
MCa – Michael Callan
MEa – Melissa Easley
MEr – Mark Ernstes
MFn – Mark Farman
MGr – Mark Greene
MKo – Maria Koukoulas
MKy – M Kelly
MLs – Matt Lewis
MMo – Mark Monroe
MPo – Marnie Pomeroy
MRo – MJ Rogers
MSi – Marshall Smith
MYa – Mary Yandell
NBr – Nancy Braun
NCa – Nancy Cardwell
NKi – Nancy Kitchen
NRo – Nikki Rothwell
NTr – Neil Troyer
PBl – Pat Bell
PMc – Patrick McGlasson
PSp – Pam Spaulding
QTh – Quentin Thigpen
RBa – Rebecca Bates
RBe – Rena Baer
RCr – Rodney Crice
RDe – Roseanna Denton
RFo – Robert Foster
RGr – Rex Graham
RHi – Ron Hirsch
RMe – Rosemary Meredith
ROc – Ronan O'Carra
RRo – Robert Rold
RSh – Rickey Shive
RTs – Rose Fuchs Thomas
SBr – Steve Brown
SBy – Sarah Barry
SFl – Samantha Fluke
SKi – Steve and Janet Kistler
SPe – Sydney Penner
SRe – Scott Record
STh – Sunil Thirkannad
STn – Sally Thierstein
STy – Stephen Tyson
TBe – Tommy Becker
TBr – Tony Brusate
TDu – Tom Durbin
TFg – Tony Fago
TGr – Teresa Graham
TLo – Tonya Logsdon
TMc – TJ McGary
TSh – Tanner Shepard
TYo – Travis Young
VBu – Vicki Burke
WAh – Win Ahrens
WOs – William Otis

Baird's Sandpiper – Rowan Co.
25 August 2022, David Lang

Buff-breasted Sandpiper – Henderson Co.
10 September 2022, Asher Higgins

THE 123RD CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT IN KENTUCKY

James A. Wheat

Forty Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) were conducted this year in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, including a new CBC in Willisburg. A total of 138 species was recorded; two more than last year, though one is a yellowlegs that could not be identified to species. The highlight bird was a Kentucky first record, first seen in Shelby County, but later moved east during the count period: Pink-footed Goose on the Lexington CBC. Prior to that, the bird was present for some time, affording many birders the chance to enjoy its presence. There were six additional species seen during Count Week: Trumpeter Swan at Lincoln's Birthplace; Surf Scoter and Black Scoter at Louisville; Gray Catbird at Glasgow; and Lincoln's Sparrow and Common Yellowthroat at Louisville. The total number of individuals counted was 344,750. The top species count for this CBC season was Allen County East with 96 species; Louisville was next with 94 species. Six count circles reported between 81 and 89 species, eleven observed between 70 and 79 species, and the remaining 21 counted between 40 and 69 species.

Weather was a bit colder this CBC season in Kentucky, compared to recent years. The lows ranged from 1°F to 56°F, with 25 CBCs reporting low temperatures at or below freezing. The high temperatures ranged from 20°F to 67°F. Both the high and low ranges are fairly well below last year's temperatures. All-day or most-day cloudy weather predominated the count period (26 counts). Much less precipitation was reported this year (8 counts), compared with last year (22 counts). Of these eight counts, three reported light rain, one of which was all-day rainfall. One CBC reported heavy rain in the afternoon. Light snow was reported on five counts, one of which reported all-day flurries. Rivers and creeks were flowing without ice, except five CBCs reporting some freezing at the edges. Lakes and ponds were mostly open, with ten reporting some ice, and seven reporting completely frozen still water. The distribution of count days across the count period remained uniform, occurring across 18 of the 23 days of the count period. The traditional holidays fell on the weekends this year. Fully half of the counts occurred on five of the six weekend days; the biggest count day being Saturday, December 17, with ten CBCs held.

There were numerous highlights this CBC season. Most are on eBird checklists, documented by photographs, and all have identification notes on the rarities. Birders tallied 28 species of waterfowl this year (plus three count week species listed above); the most notable is the aforementioned Pink-footed Goose. Other important observations include first Kentucky CBC record Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (6 at Ballard County); Ross's Goose (1 at Ballard County); Cackling Goose (4 on 2 counts); and Tundra Swan (2 on 2 counts, and a count week bird on 2 others). Additional water bird species of note include Eared Grebe (1 at Russell-Adair County); Virginia Rail (1 at Paradise); Least Sandpiper (13 on 2 counts); Lesser Black-backed Gull (7 at Land Between the Lakes); Forster's Tern (9 at Calloway County and a count week bird at Land Between the Lakes); and Black-crowned Night-Heron (6 at Louisville). Notable raptor reports include Golden Eagle (1 at Bernheim Forest); Merlin (12 on 4 counts and a count week bird on another, continuing the upward trend of this species in winter in Kentucky); Peregrine Falcon (4 on 4 counts); and Prairie Falcon (1 at Wayne County).

Further highlights include Common Raven (3 at Paintsville); House Wren (2 on 2 counts, a significant drop from 18 last year); Marsh Wren (2 on 2 counts, one of which is an Indiana bird); LeConte's Sparrow (1 at Ballard County); Yellow-headed Blackbird (1 at Bowling Green); Western Meadowlark (2 at Ballard County); Brewer's Blackbird (27 on 3 counts); Orange-crowned Warbler (1 at Louisville); Western Tanager (1 at Louisville; there is speculation that this may be the

same bird that appeared within a few miles on the 2019 CBC); and Indigo Bunting (1 at Louisville).

The ten most numerous species were European Starling (102,229); Common Grackle (38,366); Red-winged Blackbird (30,028); American Crow (9,168); Canada Goose (8,836); Snow Goose (7,717); Mallard (7,463); Northern Cardinal (6,342); Mourning Dove (6,061); and Ring-billed Gull (5,997). There were 18 common species that were reported on all 40 counts, and 18 species were observed on only one CBC each. Six CBCs tallied over 14,000 birds: Elkton (103,077), Paradise (27,782), Sorgho (24,296), Ballard County (19,811), Louisville (14,510), and Allen County East (14,254).

The 476 participants in 244 parties, including some multi-CBC observers, logged a total of 1,364.5 party-hours and 6,832.75 party-miles. With 77 more participants (and two more CBCs) than last year, there was a resulting slight increase in party hours, and a small reduction in party miles. Birders spent 27.5 hours owling while traveling 81.25 miles, increasing both metrics this year. Forty-five feeder watchers logged 55.75 hours observing birds, both up from last year. All in all, Kentucky birders put in a good effort!

Thank you to the 476 observers who participated in this year's counts. Once again, most of these observations have also been reported in eBird. My special gratitude goes to the 32 hard-working compilers who organized and executed their counts, submitted count results online, and endured my many requests and questions. I want to commend especially compilers who volunteer to run multiple CBCs: Roseanna Denton (4), Blaine Ferrell (2), Ed Groneman (2), Steve Kistler (2), and Brainard Palmer-Ball (3). To those who completed Rare Bird Reports or otherwise documented the unusual birds, thank you very much for your contributions to the CBCs and citizen science.

LOCATION SUMMARIES

The following CBC summaries are grouped by Kentucky physiographic region (see Figure 1), and are listed alphabetically within those groups. A table of the results for all 40 CBCs held this CBC season is provided on the KOS website (visit https://www.birdky.org/annualcbc.php). Please note that the table only includes birds identified to the species level (i.e., there is no row for *Sharp-shinned/Cooper's Hawk* or *Greater/Lesser Scaup*, etc., though they are included in the individuals count for each CBC. Printed copies of the tables are available upon request to the Editor.

JACKSON PURCHASE

Ballard County (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. KY 358 and Stove Corner Road; 37.1228, -088.9518). Habitat as described in 1984. Dec. 19; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST. Partly cloudy; temp. 22–40°F; wind E, 0–15 mph. Water: open.

Five observers in one to three parties (+1 at feeder). Total party-hours: 22.5 (8 on foot, 14.5 by car). Total party-miles: 105 (6 on foot, 99 by car). Hours feeder watching: 3. Hours owling: 1. Total species 87; 19,811 individuals.

Observers: Michelle Batcher, Hap Chambers, Steve Graham, Teresa Graham, Wes McFaddin, and Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler).

Compiler Comments: Species total low mostly due to lower participation and lack of diving ducks. Weather cold but decent. Highlights included the first count record of Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (6), two Barn Owls, Merlin, LeConte's Sparrow, at least two Western Meadowlarks, and four Brewer's Blackbirds. Count Week species: Ring-necked Duck.

Calloway County (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center Douglas Cemetery; 36.5984, -088.1958). Habitat: lake shoreline and streams – 20%, open fields – 35%, residential – 30%, and deciduous and pine woods – 15%. Dec. 23; 6:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST. Partly cloudy; temp. 28–50°F; wind E, 3–6 mph. Water: open.

Seven observers in one to six parties. Total party-hours: 24 (3.5 on foot, 20.5 by car). Total party-miles: 118 (3 on foot, 115 by car). Total species 78; 3,763 individuals.

Observers: Gage Barnes, Hap Chambers (compiler), Melissa Easley, Bob Head, Mike Miller, Darrin Samborski, and Aviva Yasgur.

Compiler Comments: Seven participants completed the Calloway Co CBC Wednesday 12/21/22. We tallied 78 species of birds and 3,763 individuals on count day and 4 additional species on count week. Highlight was one shorebird that was photographed and determined to be Greater/Lesser Yellowlegs. We couldn't have asked for a prettier day with light wind and partly cloudy. Glad we changed the date at the last minute to avoid today's weather. Thanks to all who participated! Count Week species: Barn Owl, White-crowned Sparrow, Rusty Blackbird, Common Grackle.

SHAWNEE HILLS

Daviess County South (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center just S of jct. Hwy. 142 and KY 762 in Habit, KY; 37.693778, -086.99575). Habitat: undescribed. Dec. 17; 5:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. CST. Clear (a.m.) to cloudy (p.m.); temp. 26–38°F; wind NW, 5–12 mph. Water: open.

Twenty-four observers in nine parties (+2 at feeder). Total party-hours: 32.5 (5.75 on foot, 26.75 by car). Total party-miles: 256 (4.5 on foot, 251.5 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 2. Hours owling: 1. Total species 55; 6,013 individuals.

Observers: Judy Adams, Laura Bronn, Larry Caldwell, Jon Dudko, Karen Guse, Alec Hahus, Steve Hahus (compiler), Doreen Harney, Mike Henshaw, Sherry Henshaw, Janet Howard, Mary Kissel, Carmel Latham, Nolan Latham, Taylor Latham, Merry Miller, Cathy Rogier, Steve Rogier, Dave Rutledge, David Stratton, Dan Styke, Adam Thompson, Marilee Thompson, and Wendell Thompson.

Compiler Comments: Although the weather in our area was colder than average, we had a record number of participants. There were no special highlights about our count this year. Our number of species was a little below our average and the total number of birds was down as well. Over half the birds that we counted were European Starlings. The rarest sighting that we had was a Loggerhead Shrike. The Wild Turkey population in our area has really been suffering the last several years and that continued this year with no sightings at all. Count week species: None.

Mammoth Cave National Park (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at Park Headquarters; 37.18644, -086.1101). Habitat as described in 1980. Dec. 17; 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. CST. Clear (a.m.) to partly cloudy (p.m.); temp. 28–36°F; wind NE, 6–13 mph. Water: open.

Seventeen observers in two parties. Total party-hours: 16 (8.5 on foot, 7.5 by car). Total party-miles: 85 (13 on foot, 72 by car). Total species 40; 404 individuals.

Observers: Sarah Bell, Kevin Burt, Bo Cooper, Becca Dorsett, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Heather Finley, Kate Floral, Ed Jakaitis, Ray Kautzman, Brice Leech, Albert Meier, Mary Practhauser, Kacey Russo, Tricia Sepulveda, Rickey Shive, Lisa Viersta, and John Zippay.

Compiler Comments: The weather was relatively conducive for the count. Mammoth Cave personnel helped with this count and I want to thank them. Again, there was not much in the way of food as in years past, hence the low count of American Robin and Cedar Waxwing. Count week species: None.

Nolin River (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center 0.5 miles S of Hilltop, eastern Grayson Co.; 37.38964, -086.1137). Habitat: woodland, farmland, river and Nolin Reservoir. Jan. 5; 6:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST Clear (a.m.) to partly clear (p.m.); temp. 36–52°F; wind unknown, 0–20 mph. Water: open.

Nine observers in one to four parties (+1 at feeder). Total party-hours: 10 (3 on foot, 7 by car). Total party-miles: 79.5 (1.5 on foot, 78 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 0.5. Total species 61; 1,567 individuals.

Observers: Bonnie Avery, Tom Durbin, Carol Friedman, Richard Healey, Janet Kistler, Steve Kistler (compiler), Carol Sole, Jeff Sole, and Neil Troyer.

Compiler Comments: Windy, with gusts to 20 mph. A lack of berries and the previous week's bitter cold temps appeared to reduce the number of species and individuals. Count Week species: Gadwall, Great Horned Owl, Pine Siskin, Fox Sparrow.

Paradise (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at Hopewell Cemetery in southern Ohio Co.; 37.27755, -086.95868). Habitat as described in 1993. Jan. 1; 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST. Foggy to partly cloudy; temp. 36–63°F; wind S, 0–15 mph. Water: open.

Seven observers in four to five parties (+2 at feeder). Total party-hours: 29 (11 on foot, 18 by car). Total party-miles: 82.5 (4.5 on foot, 78 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 2. Hours owling: 1. Total species 81; 27,782 individuals.

Observers: Preston Forsythe, Shari Forsythe, Steve Graham, Teresa Graham, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Robert Rold, and Matt Stickel.

Compiler Comments: Species total (82) relatively low in large part due to lack of diving ducks. Weather was good. Highlights included calling Virginia Rail and Marsh Wren, two American Woodcock, five Merlin, one Short-eared Owl, and a Lapland Longspur (call). Count week species: None.

Sorgho (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. Hwy. 279-S and Audubon Parkway; 37.76297, -087.23086). Habitat: farmland, river, creeks, river bottoms, urban parks and county parks. Jan. 1; 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. CST. Foggy (a.m.) to partly cloudy (p.m.); temp. 40–58°F; wind NW, 0–9 mph. Water: partly frozen (still water) to open (moving water).

Fourteen observers in eight parties. Total party-hours: 31.25 (14.5 on foot, 16.75 by car). Total party-miles: 235.5 (11.5 on foot, 224 by car). Total species 56; 24,296 individuals.

Observers: Judy Adams, Pat Augenstein, Laura Bronn, Laverne Bush, John Dudko, Steve Hahus, Doreen Harney, Janet Howard (compiler), Mary Kissel, Carmen Latham, Nolan Latham, Marilee Thompson, Wendell Thompson, and Carolyn Williams.

Compiler Comments: Although there was no rain on count day, it was foggy and overcast until late afternoon. This probably contributed to fewer eagles, some species of buteos, and other birds. We continue to see a decline in turkeys during this count and in general. Count week species: None.

HIGHLAND RIM

Allen County East (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center along Rhoden Creek, 3 miles N of Holland, KY., Post Office; 36.7426, -086.06855). Habitat as described in 2014. Dec. 27; 6:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. CST Cloudy (a.m.) to partly cloudy (p.m.); temp. 28–53°F; wind S, 1 mph. Water: partly open (still water) to open (moving water).

Eleven observers in five to six parties. Total party-hours: 49.5 (17 on foot, 32.5 by car). Total party-miles: 295 (15.5 on foot, 279.5 by car). Hours owling: 0.75. Total species 96; 14,254 individuals.

Observers: Gwen Alston, Jamin Beachy (compiler), Joanna Beachy, Marlene Beachy, Nathan Beachy, Victor Beachy, Lyle Bontrager, Asher Higgins, Ruben Stoll, Victor Stoll, and Judith Troyer.

Compiler Comments: The cold weather with snow cover and ice made for a complete lack of lingering species. Palm and Pine Warblers were absent as were Ruby-crowned Kinglets. Notable finds, despite the cold weather, were: Least Sandpiper, House Wren, and Lapland Longspur. Greater White-fronted Goose was somewhat unusual, and a location for Loggerhead Shrike was noteworthy. Count Week species: Redhead, Northern Bobwhite.

Allen County West (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center 0.5 mile W of jct. KY 2136 Towe Road and Shores Road; 36.71278, -086.3469). Habitat as described in 2012. Dec. 24; 6:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST. Partly clear; temp. 1–20°F; wind variable, 10–15 mph. Water: partly open (still water) to partly frozen (moving water).

Nineteen observers in one to nine parties (+6 at feeder). Total party-hours: 35.5 (7.5 on foot,28 by horse and buggy). Total party-miles: 70 (8.5 on foot, 61.5 by horse and buggy). Hours feeder-watching: 1.5. Hours owling: 1. Total species 75; 5,091 individuals.

Observers: Abraham Brubaker, Amanda Brubaker, Joanne Brubaker, John David Brubaker (compiler), Linda Brubaker, Matthan Brubaker, Ethan Hoover, Joseph Hoover, Philemon Hoover, Sharon Hoover, Alicia Sensenig, Beth Ann Sensenig, Christine Sensenig, Darren Sensenig, Diana Sensenig, Lori Sensenig, Benjamin Weaver, Karl Weaver, and Katie Weaver.

Compiler Comments: Even with the extra cold weather and less time afield for most of the observers, the count turned out fairly pleasing. Highlights were 1 Green-winged Teal, 7 Ring-necked Ducks, and 1 Ring-billed Gull. A max count of 7 Bald Eagles was also a surprise; seems these are becoming more common in our area. Wood Ducks were missed due to most ponds being frozen, and were not located on moving water, but I think their numbers are about as usual, as most other species seem to be. Count week species: Wood Duck, Barred Owl.

Barren River Lake (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center 2.3 mi. ESE of jct. KY 1402 and KY 101, Barren Co.; 36.933002, -086.170535). Habitat: agricultural – 50%, woodlands – 20%, urban/suburban – 20%, open water – 10%. Dec. 20; 6:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST. Cloudy (a.m.) to partly clear (p.m.); temp. 32–50°F; wind variable, 0–5 mph. Water: open.

Three observers in three parties. Total party-hours: 24.5 (7 on foot, 17.5 by car). Total party-miles: 215.75 (3.75 on foot, 212 by car). Total species 84; 8,405 individuals.

Observers: Roseanna Denton (compiler), Aaron Hulsey, and David Roemer.

Compiler Comments: Weather was excellent with a temperature range of 32-50, wind 0-5 mph, all water open, with a cloudy to partly clear sky. 3 observers in 3 parties. Observers were: Roseanna Denton, Aaron Hulsey & David Roemer. Our species total was 84. Highlights were 6 Common Mergansers, 4 Common Goldeneye, 3 American White Pelicans (count first), 19 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 1 American Pipit, 7 Purple Finches, 55 Savannah Sparrows, 1 Palm Warbler and the thousands of gulls coming in to roost on the lake in the evening. Count Week species: None.

Bowling Green (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center Basil Griffin Park, 6 miles S of Bowling Green; 36.9159, -086.4359). Habitat: deciduous woods – 20%, fields and pastures – 60%, and town and parks – 20%. Dec. 15; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST. Partly cloudy; temp. 44–46°F; wind NE, 9–11 mph. Water: open.

Four observers in two parties. Total party-hours: 18 (7 on foot, 11 by car). Total party-miles: 163.25 (8.25 on foot, 155 by car). Total species 69; 7,584 individuals.

Observers: Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Albert Meier, David Roemer, and Tricia Sepulveda.

Compiler Comments: The weather for this time of year was conducive for the count. There was not as much food available as in some years. The Yellow-headed Blackbird observed by David Roemer was among a huge mixed flock of blackbirds at the WKU farm. I was able to get a picture of the bird purely by luck. Thanks to those who participated in the count. Count Week species: Greater White-fronted Goose, Green-winged Teal, Canvasback, Redhead, Red-breasted Merganser, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Merlin, Pam Warbler.

Elkton (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center just N of jct. KY 102 Allensville Road and Gardner Road; 36.7605, -087.1016). Habitat: agricultural fields – 73%, woodland – 15%, brushy fencerows – 8%, rural areas – 2%, small ponds and streams – 2%. Jan. 1; 4:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST. Clear; temp. 54–61°F; wind SW, 3–12 mph. Water: open.

Eleven observers in four to six parties (+1 at feeder). Total party-hours: 55.5 (22.75 on foot, 32.75 by car). Total party-miles: 397 (22 on foot, 375 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 2. Hours owling: 3. Total species 89; 103,077 individuals.

Observers: John Beachy, Marvin Beachy, Joe Hall, Deborah Hamilton, Steve Hamilton, Gerald Herschberger, Aden Mast, Ruben Stoll, Victor Stoll, Alan Troyer (compiler), and Keith Yoder.

Compiler Comments: Count Day this season was warm and clear. Participation (11) was about average, however we divided into 6 parties which is more than usual.

New high counts were set for 32 species this year, some of which may be explained by better coverage. Other factors were at play though, perfect soaring weather likely contributed to the above average raptor numbers and some species, (such as American Crow, Eastern Bluebird, European Starling etc.) definitely appear to be on the rise. High counts were set for the following species; Canada Goose, American Wigeon, American Black Duck, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Ring-billed Gull, Barn Owl, Eastern Screech-Owl, Barred Owl, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, American Kestrel, Loggerhead Shrike, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Eastern Bluebird, European Starling, Dark-eyed Junco, White-throated Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, and Common Grackle.

A new low count was set for Eurasian Collared-Dove, whether they're declining or whether we just didn't find them I don't know. Three species were entirely new for the count; Canvasback, Tundra Swan, and Brewer's Blackbird. Another bird of interest was a young Krider's Red-tailed Hawk. Notable misses included Sharp-shinned Hawk, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and Palm Warbler.

Thank you to everyone who participated on count day and to the regional editor who collects all this data and makes something of it. Count week species: Ring-necked Duck.

Glasgow (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center Barren Co. courthouse; 36.9956, -085.9127). Habitat: deciduous woods – 20%, fields and pastures – 60%, and town and parks – 20%. Dec. 15; 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST. Partly cloudy; temp. 39–50°F; wind SW, 4–13 mph. Water: open.

Three observers in one party (+1 at feeder). Total party-hours: 5 (5 by car). Total party-miles: 66 (66 by car). Hours feeder watching: 0.5. Total species 62; 7,510 individuals.

Observers: Barbara Brand, Tom Durbin (compiler), and Sandra Moss.

Compiler Comments: We found a few extra species this year compared to last year, but the number of birds in each species seemed to be down. The weather was favorable for walking. Notable misses included Bald Eagle, Loggerhead Shrike, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, and Canada Goose. We did find Harriers this year even though prime habitat for them has been mowed down. The number of houses and plowed farmland increases each year and that cuts down significantly on species diversity. Count week species: None.

Green River Lake (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center Green River Memorial Baptist Church, Taylor Co.; 37.2987, -085.3688). Habitat: old fields, agricultural fields and borders, second growth forest, Green River riparian areas, open water, including Green River Lake, and Campbellsville City Lake. Dec. 28; 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST. Clear; temp. 19-57°F; wind S, 5–20 mph. Water: partly frozen (still water) to open (moving water).

Seven observers in four parties. Total party-hours: 28 (17 on foot, 11 by car). Total party-miles: 103.5 (6.5 on foot, 97 by car). Total species 74; 2,883 individuals.

Observers: Lloyd Curry, Steve Dalton, Richie Kessler, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Jeff Sole, Elmer Yoder, and Malinda Yoder.

Compiler Comments: Count was held immediately following a few days of severe cold. Soft-mast eating species in low numbers, likely in large part due to absence of cedar berry supply. Would have thought we'd have had a few more waterfowl, but water bird abundance and diversity about normal. Count week species: None.

Hart County (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center near the end of Obanion Road; 37.26271, -085.841364). Habitat: agricultural fields – 73%, woodland – 15%, brushy fencerows – 8%, rural areas – 2%, small ponds and streams – 2%. Dec. 26; 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST. Cloudy (a.m.) to partly cloudy (p.m.); temp. 29–36°F; wind calm, 0–5 mph. Water: frozen (still water) to open (moving water).

Seven observers in two to five parties. Total party-hours: 20 (7 on foot, 13 by car). Total party-miles: 128 (6 on foot, 122 by car). Total species 65; 3,765 individuals.

Observers: Carol Friedman, Janet Kistler, Steve Kistler (compiler), Carol Sole, Jeff Sole, Mitch Sturgeon, and Neil Troyer.

Compiler Comments: Sub-zero temperatures a few days before this count led to an almost total lack of waterfowl and misses on several common species. Count Week species: Canada Goose, Mallard, Herring Gull, Eastern Phoebe.

Hopkinsville (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. US 68 and Pennyrile Parkway; 36.861547, -87.472963). Habitat is mainly urban with outlying areas being farmland. The north part of the circle is much more wooded. There has been substantial loss of habitat over the years due to urban development. Jan. 2; 6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST. Partly clear; temp. 55–65°F; wind NE, 5–10 mph. Water: open.

Eleven observers in four parties (+1 at feeder). Total party-hours: 33.5 (12.5 on foot, 21 by car). Total party-miles: 295 (20 on foot and 275 by car). Hours feeder watching: 1. Total species 75; 7,843 individuals.

Observers: James David Chiles (compiler), Irene Grace, Jeff Grace, Julius Grace, Joe Hall, Scott Hall, Debbie Hamilton, Steve Hamilton, Sandra Price, Tom Price, Maggie Selvidge, and Jack Shoop.

Compiler Comments: The count day brought warm temperatures (56-65) and winds from the south from 5-15 mph. The excellent viewing conditions allowed for a high count of 75 species with 7,844 individuals. Unusual for the count were high numbers of vultures: 257 Black Vultures and 92 Turkey Vultures. The sighting of a Loggerhead Shrike which has not been seen on count day for many years was unexpected. A Peregrine Falcon was also observed. Bald Eagles continued to be present with six sighted, including an apparent four-year-old with a much larger adult at a nest site. Count week species: None.

Land Between the Lakes (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center northern edge of mouth to Pisgah Bay, south of Pisgah Point boat ramp and near the end of Forest Service Road 1111-A; 36.936736, -88.168328). Habitat as described in 1984. Dec. 17; 6:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST. Clear; temp. 31–37°F; wind W, 5–24 mph. Water: open.

Twenty-two observers in one to nine parties. Total party-hours: 52 (23.25 on foot, 28.75 by car). Total party-miles: 293.5 (11.5 on foot, 282 by car). Total species 77; 6,197 individuals.

Observers: Annabelle Barr (compiler), Shannon Brockway, Hap Chambers, Melodie Cunningham, Melissa Easley, Aly Fantauzzo, Brandon Fricker, Jan Gray, Rick Hokans, Kara Hollansworth, Melissa Johnson, Tim Johnson, Konner Kirkwood, Niklas Klauss, Thana McGary, Karlee Peeler, John Pollpeter, Darrin Samborski, Vanessa Sivils, Jett Spivey, Jeremy Teague, and Nickolaus Willis.

Compiler Comments: The LBL CBC was impacted this year by particularly high winds, making it difficult to hear bird calls and see waterfowl from a distance. Our final species count was lower than usual this year at 77 species. This is likely due to the weather conditions, and we had a few talented birders that could not participate this year. Overall, most of the observed species are ones that are seen on almost every count. Still, it is always nice to see a large number of American White Pelicans and thousands of gulls flying on Kentucky Lake – both things that our count is known for. A couple more unusual species from this year are one Winter Wren, and sightings of Sandhill Cranes during count week.

A notable record from this year was the highest count of Black Vultures (250) and Turkey Vultures (142) ever seen. The NatureWatch area has become a significant winter roosting site for these species; their numbers have been growing for the past few years.

Despite the difficult wind conditions, we all had a great day driving LBL backroads and trying to avoid being blown over on the lake shores. We appreciate all our participants' efforts during this year's count. Count Week species: Wild Turkey, Sandhill Crane, Forster's Tern, Barred Owl.

Lincoln's Birthplace (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at courthouse square in downtown Hodgenville; 37.57375, -085.74038). Habitat as described in 2011. Dec. 28; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST. Partly cloudy; temp. 30–54°F; wind SE, 5–18 mph. Water: frozen (still water) to open (moving water).

Fourteen observers in one to nine parties (+1 at feeder). Total party-hours: 43.25 (7 on foot, 36.25 by car). Total party-miles: 469 (5 on foot, 464 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 3.75. Hours owling: 2.25. Total species 73; 7,817 individuals.

Observers: Brooks Atherton, Lyn Atherton, Sean Clinning, Bill Friel, Terri Friel, Brenda Gaddie, Nancy Grant, Marty Hepner, Otis Meredith, Rosemary Meredith, Linda Neason, Ross Parker, Mark Salsman, Marsha Stewart, and Barbara Woerner (compiler).

Compiler Comments: Fifteen participants found 73 species, which is about average for this CBC. Almost all ponds and lakes were completely covered by ice. Lots of Canada Geese & Mallards and a few other waterfowl species were found at the few small areas of open water. Six species of waterfowl were found (vs. avg 10-15). Kinglets and warblers were scarce, with one Pine Warbler & one Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler being the only warblers found. All parties enjoyed finding Horned Larks, Sandhills Cranes and Bald Eagles. The number for some sparrow species was low; however, we set a new count record high for Fox Sparrows (10), which included a flock of five. Record high counts were also noted for American Kestrels (69), Red-shouldered Hawks (20), Northern Harriers (13), Brown Thrashers (5) and Eastern Phoebe (10). There were nine count week species including an interesting trio of swans (1 ad. Mute Swan, 1 ad. Tundra Swan, 1 juvenile Trumpeter Swan, all photographed together!), Northern Shoveler, Redhead, Hooded Merganser, Ring-billed Gull, American Pipit, and Lapland Longspur. Thank you to all who helped with the CBC this year.

Otter Creek Park (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center just W of jct. KY 1238 and Pack Lane, about 2 miles SW of the Park entrance; 37.91409, -086.069836). Habitat as described in 2001. Dec. 31; 7:45 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. EST. Cloudy with light rain; temp. 47–55°F; wind unknown, 0–5 mph. Water: partly frozen (still water) to open (moving water).

Seven observers in one to five parties. Total party-hours: 27 (15 on foot, 12 by car). Total party-miles: 142.75 (14.25 on foot, 128.5 by car). Hours owling: 0.5. Total species 73; 3,962 individuals.

Observers: Michael Autin (compiler), Tom Becker, Mike Callan, Asher Higgins, Erin Knight, and Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Elizabeth Wright.

Compiler Comments: A good number of Loggerhead Shrikes and some uncommon waterfowl as well as great numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches made this CBC unusual. It was marked by rain and a general lack of small insectivores such as Ruby-crowned Kinglet, which was missed though a single phoebe and a few Golden-crowned Kinglets were found. It was a relief to find good numbers of bluebirds after the freeze. Not bad on a mostly rainy day. Count Week species: Northern Shoveler, Bufflehead.

Russell-Adair County (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. Owensby Road and Hwy. 3281; 36.965809, -085.121701). Habitat: mixed and deciduous woodland, pasture fields, streams and lake, mostly rural with a small percentage of urban. Dec. 28; 5:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. CST. Clear; temp. 24–55°F; wind SW, 0–20 mph. Water: Partly open (still water) to open (moving water).

Ten observers in six parties. Total party-hours: 55 (18 on foot, 37 by car). Total party-miles 256 (5 on foot, 251 by car). Hours owling: 0.5. Total species 82; 6,318 individuals.

Observers: Liz Baldwin, Wendy Butler Burt, Derek Coomer, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Steve Denton, Asher Higgins, Bret Kuss, Cheri Olson, Rickey Shive, and John Zippay.

Compiler Comments: Our species total was 82 with no new species added to the count total. Highlights included Eared Grebe, several waterfowl species, Sandhill Crane, 8 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 6 American Pipits, 6 Purple Finches & 7 Chipping Sparrows. Numbers for frugivores were low, but bluebird numbers were fairly normal at 112. No Ruby-crowned Kinglets were found for the first time since the count began in 2006. I think they were mostly missing due to the extreme weather prior to the count rather than the observers missing them. Count week species: None.

Somerset (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. Bypass Hwy. 80 and Hwy. 39; 37.102452, -084.603757). Habitat as described in 2000. Dec. 30; 6:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. EST. Clear (a.m.) to partly clear (p.m.); temp. 50–67°F; wind SW, 0–15 mph. Water: partly frozen (still water) to open (moving water).

Eight observers in five parties (+2 at feeder). Total party-hours: 41 (15.5 by foot, 25.5 by car). Total party-miles: 257 (9 on foot, 248 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 3. Hours owling: 2.25. Total species 75; 6,075 individuals.

Observers: Roseanna Denton (compiler), Steve Denton, James Kiser, Bret Kuss, Tom Mills, Rickey Shive, Benjamin Wells, and Ethan Wells.

Compiler Comments: Weather was almost too nice for good bird movement. Highlights included a Snow Goose, several waterfowl species, Sandhill Crane, 15 Red-breasted Nuthatches & 1 Purple Finch. No Ruby-crowned Kinglets or Brown Thrashers were found. Count Week species: Red-breasted Merganser, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Horned Owl.

Wayne County (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. Hwy. 1275 and Hwy. 3106; 36.897211, -084.821301). Habitat as described in 2002. Dec. 15; 6:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST. Partly cloudy; temp. 48–50°F; wind SW, 5–25 mph. Water: open.

Six observers in four to five parties. Total party-hours: 45 (10.75 on foot, 34.25 by car). Total party-miles: 244.75 (4.75 on foot, 240 by car). Hours owling: 0.25. Total species 77; 5,652 individuals.

Observers: Lyle Bontrager, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Asher Higgins, Bret Kuss, Rickey Shive, and John Zippay.

Compiler Comments: Highlights for the count were Greater White-fronted Goose, American Woodcock, 6 Red-breasted Nuthatches, House Wren, 72 American Pipits and a Prairie Falcon, a new species for the count. As expected, numbers for frugivores were low, but bluebird numbers were fairly high at 210. The high count was 219 on the Jan. 5, 2013 count and the low count was 44 on the Jan. 5, 2022 count. Count week species: None.

BLUEGRASS

Bernheim Forest (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at Forest lookout tower, 2.75 mi. SE of Forest entrance; 37.902405, -085.62752). Habitat as described in 1974. Jan. 2; 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. EST. Partly cloudy (a.m.) to cloudy (p.m.); temp. 45–63°F; wind S, 0–12 mph. Water: open.

Seventeen observers in nine parties. Total party-hours: 48 (26.25 on foot, 21.75 by car). Total party-miles: 210.25 (21.75 on foot, 188.5 by car). Total species 70; 4,583 individuals.

Observers: Michael Autin, Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Mike Callan (compiler), Aerin Land, JoAnn Luyster, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Becca Rastede, Nour Salam, Jennifer Snyder, Jerry Snyder, Kelly Vowels, Jim Wheatley, Vickie Wheatley, Barbara Woerner, Elizabeth Wright, and Julie Wysong.

Compiler Comments: Decent weather. Species total (70) a bit below average for the count. Hardly any waterfowl. Highlights: 1 Golden Eagle, 2 Palm Warblers, 1 Pine Warbler. Misses: astonishing for this count to miss Cedar Waxwing with normal abundance of natural and horticultural foods. Also missed Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Low numbers of Yellow-rumped Warblers also pointed to lack of soft mass food (cedar berries). Count Week species: None.

Burlington (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center near Camp Michaels; 38.9493, -084.7463). Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 17; 4:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST. Cloudy; temp. 30–34°F; wind NE, 9–14 mph. Water: open.

Seventeen observers in two to eleven parties. Total party-hours: 52.75 (28.5 on foot, 24.25 by car). Total party-miles: 140.5 (23.25 on foot, 117.25 by car). Hours owling: 3. Total species 68; 2,936 individuals.

Observers: Linda Altevers, Hannah Apatang, Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti (compiler), Elaine Carroll, Melissa Desjardin, Ezekiel Dobson, Alicia Duggan, Dave Galvin, Ed Groneman, Edna Lindeman, Elizabeth Lindeman, Gayle Pille, Ken Renner, Olivia Staten, Tom Stephens, and Travis Young.

Compiler Comments: We had great participation this year with 11 groups (17 field observers). A high count of 204 Ring-necked Duck were individually counted by Travis Young at Big Bone State Park. Also of note at the East Bend Power Plant were: 6 species of waterfowl, 1 Peregrine Falcon, and a high count of 5 Bald Eagles. Count week species: None.

Danville (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center Boyle Co. Courthouse; 37.646268, -084.773268). Habitat: water edge – 15%, urban – 8%, cultivated – 10%, field/fence row – 35%, wooded edge – 25%, and feeder – 7%. Dec. 17; 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. EST. Clear; temp 25–38°F; wind SW, 10–25 mph. Water: open.

Six observers in four parties (+1 at feeder). Total party-hours: 11 (2.5 on foot, 8.5 by car). Total party-miles: 127.5 (3.5 on foot, 124 by car). Hours feeder watching: 1. Hours owling: 1. Total species 45; 2,139 individuals.

Observers: Laura Baird, Jayne High, Ben Leffew (compiler), Preston Miles, Dan Patrick, Michael Patton, and Rachel Patton.

Compiler Comments: It was a slow birding day with clear skies, cold temps, and high winds. There were localized areas of increased bird activity, but the area as a whole had decreased activity. Count week species: None.

Falmouth (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center near Caddo, KY.; 38.74738, -084.24473). Habitat: woodland and forest edge – 50%, river and lake shoreline – 25%, agricultural – 20%, and residential – 5%. Jan. 2; 6:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST. Cloudy (a.m.) to partly cloudy (p.m.); temp 49–60°F; wind calm, 0–10 mph. Water: open.

Ten observers in five parties. Total party-hours: 19 (10 on foot, 9 by car). Total party-miles: 153.5 (19.5 on foot, 134 by car). Hours owling: 1. Total species 56; 2,139 individuals.

Observers: Ginny Butsch, Linus Butsch, Matt Butsch, Wally Butsch, Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Rodney Crice, Ed Groneman (compiler), Brandon Riley, Mike Riley, and Tom Stephens.

Compiler Comments: We had an unusually warm day with no rain but count numbers were lower than normal despite a higher number of participants. Good finds were Sandhill Crane, Bald Eagle, Horned Lark, Hermit Thrush, Brown-headed Cowbird and high numbers of Wild Turkey. Most waterfowl were non-existent. Thanks to all participants! Count Week species: None.

Frankfort (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. US 127 and KY 1900; 38.227051, -084.852521). Habitat as described in 1977. Dec. 17; 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. EST Clear (a.m.) to cloudy (p.m.); temp. 28-37°F; wind variable, 7-21 mph. Water: open.

Eighteen observers in nine parties (+4 at feeder). Total party-hours: 34.5 (27.75 on foot, 6.75 by car). Total party-miles: 66.25 (18.75 on foot, 47.5 by car). Hours feeder watching: 7. Total species 56; 2,817 individuals.

Observers: Joyce Bender, Sue Bruenderman, Robert Chadwick, Barb Cornett, Joyce Fry, Lisa Gabbard, Peggy Gould (compiler), Scott Hankla, Alicia Jacobs, Norm Jacobs, David Jones, Jeff Jones, Joel Jones, Susan Laurenson, Carol Poston, Ed Poston, Geoffrey Roberts, Garrett Roe, Nour Salam, Fran Slezak, and Gary Sprandel.

Compiler Comments: Weather-wise, the wind may have played a part in keeping some sparrow numbers low. Other than that, it was a good day for birding. The total of 17 Bald Eagles indicates a positive trend for these birds re-establishing themselves in this area! Count Week species: Hooded Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Great Horned Owl.

Hardin County (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. KY 1357 St. John Road and Kamber Lane, circa 6 miles W of Elizabethtown; 37.69825, -85.96565). Habitat: rural farmland – 70% (c. row crop – 75%, hayland and pasture – 25%), rural and suburban settlement – 20%, deciduous woodland blocks and wooded fence lines – 5%, and riparian/floodplain woodland – 5%. Dec. 26; 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. EST. Cloudy with light and heavy snow (a.m.) and light snow (p.m.); temp. 8–25°F; wind SE, 6–9 mph. Water: frozen (still water) to partly frozen (moving water).

Four observers in three parties (+6 at feeder). Total party-hours: 12.75 (.5 on foot, 12.25 by car). Total party-miles: 64.5 (.25 on foot, 64.25 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 11. Total species 81; 2,331 individuals.

Observers: Sean Clinning, Nancy Kotarski, Jennifer Snyder (compiler), Jerry Snyder, Michael Sotkiewicz, and Sarah Sotkiewicz.

Compiler Comments: Hardin County CBC experienced extremely cold temperatures, snow, and wind. All birds, even starlings, were fewer and harder to find. Notable misses were bluebirds who hopefully left before the cold weather hit. Notable finds: Barn Owl, Common Merganser, and Cackling Goose. Count Week species: None.

Henry County (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at end of Fern Castle Lane; 38.39183, -085.03719). Habitat: mostly open farmland with most trees along fence lines; a lot of small farm ponds. Dec. 26; 5:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. EST. Cloudy, with light snow (a.m.); temp. 22–31°F; wind W, 10–15 mph. Water: frozen (still water) to open (moving water).

Three observers in three parties. Total party-hours: 24.5 (24.5 by bicycle). Total party-miles: 104 (104 by bicycle). Hours owling 1. Total species 66; 2,815 individuals.

Observers: Joel Raber, Reuben Raber (compiler), and Harry Yoder.

Compiler Comments: It snowed all morning and we already had several inches of snow. The good thing was it resulted in several longspurs and pipits. Due to the cold, all ponds, lakes, etc., were frozen, except the Kentucky River, which had no waterfowl. We had a low number of observers but still did fairly well. One disappointment was our local Barn Owls were not located, even though we tried at several locations. Count week species: Ring-billed Gull, Sharp-shinned Hawk.

Kleber Wildlife Management Area (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at Hensler, Owen Co.; 38.46333°, -084.776749°). Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 18; 7:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. EST Cloudy with light snow (a.m.), partly cloudy (p.m.); temp. 21-32°F; wind unknown, 20 mph. Water: Partly frozen (still water) to open (moving water).

Six observers in four parties. Total party-hours: 18.5 (12.75 on foot, 5.75 by car). Total party-miles: 52 (9.25 on foot, 42.75 by car). Total species 54; total individuals 1,336.

Observers: Joyce Bender, Robert Chadwick, Jeff Jones, Rachael Peake, Nour Salam (compiler), and Karol Wilson.

Compiler Comments: Mixed-species foraging flock encounter account by Karol Wilson and Nour Salam: We finished our planned Christmas bird counts for the day and snuck into one last bonus spot on our way back home to attempt to see a Bald Eagle in the trees lining the Kentucky River near Monterey. I stopped the car one last time on a bridge crossing a wooded creek bed to do a stationary count. First, there was complete silence. We didn't think we were going to see anything. Then out of nowhere, it was like a flood of birds had started. Chickadees, titmice, White-breasted Nuthatch, Downy Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Carolina Wrens and many bluebirds all moved into the same tree at the same time. It was the most wonderful musical orchestra. They all moved so actively as if dancing around in that tree for about five minutes. They disappeared as quickly as they had appeared, and we were just left with giant smiles on our faces!

Other highlights: 8 flyover Snow Geese, a Fox Sparrow within a flock of White-crowned Sparrows, seeing three Red-headed Woodpeckers simultaneously, and seeing an escapee Ring-necked Pheasant near Elk Creek Hunt Club. Count week species: None.

Lexington (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center East Hickman Church on Tates Creek Road; 37.9198, -084.4693). Habitat: suburban farms, woodlots, water company reservoirs, Kentucky River cliffs and bottomland. Dec. 17; 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST. Partly clear (a.m.) to cloudy (p.m.); temp. 30–37°F; wind SW, 8–17 mph. Water: open.

Forty-five observers in 15 parties (+2 at feeder). Total party-hours: 78 (40 by foot, 38 by car). Total party-miles: 277 (22 on foot, 255 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 5. Total species 79; 5,818 individuals.

Observers: Amy Barrentine, Joshua Bergemenke, Kyle Bixler, Beth Blumspiker, Gretchen Bolton, Nancy Bowling, Nancy Braun, Katey Buster, Lisa Combs, Elizabeth Copelin, Mark Ernstes, Darcy Everett, Mark Farman, Aaron Fuerhrer, Robin Fuerhrer, Emma Gregory, Cynthis Higgs,

Kelly Hill, Jim Hodge, Beverly James, Pearl James, Van Knowles, Terri Koontz, David Lang, Judy Lundquist, Laura Mentor, Josie Miller, Angela Minella, Ronan O'Carra, Dalton Partin, Kathryn Partin, Dan Patrick, Sydney Penner, Susan Pollack, Beate Popkin, Charlie Rowe, Jim Scout, Karen Scout, Lou Shain, Nathan Skinner, Dave Svetich, Sally Thierstein, Charles Tremoulet, Barbara Vellios, and George Weams. [Mark Tower (compiler)]

Compiler Comments: The highlight of our count was certainly the Pink-footed Goose. Other highlights would include Red-headed Woodpecker (for the first time in 7 years). Additionally, I'd say a highlight was the participation turnout. Our 45 birders were the highest number of folks participating in 6 years. This was mostly buoyed by the folks counting at Raven Run and Floracliff. Most notable misses were the absence of Yellow-rumped Warbler and White-crowned Sparrow (both for the first time since I've been a compiler–8 years). Our weather was pretty blah–overcast and cold, but not frigid, and no precipitation. Count week species: None.

Louisville (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. US 42 and KY 22; 38.28126, -085.63481). Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 18; 5:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST. Cloudy with light snow (a.m.) to partly cloudy (p.m.); temp. 27–38°F; wind W, 6–13 mph. Water: partly frozen (still water) to open (moving water).

Fifty-five observers in 9 to 30 parties (+9 at feeder). Total party-hours: 127 (101.5 on foot, 25.5 by car). Total party-miles: 198.5 (76.75 on foot, 121.75 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 7.5. Hours owling: 4.25. Total species 94; 14,510 individuals.

Observers: Mikus Abolins-Abols, Win Ahrens, Michael Autin, David Bailey, Jamie Baker, Liz Baldwin, Tom Becker, Sherm Bedford, Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Carol Besse, Mike Callan, Hanah Carter, Carol Challas, Natalie Christian, Marge Constan, Colleen Craven-Becker, Wes Cunningham, Chris Curl, Perri Eason, Marguerite Esrock, Emma Faulkner, Kevin Flowers, Terri Friel, Charles Hatten, Christine Hayden, Ron Hirsch, Sherry Hurley, Donovan Jones, Megan Kahn, Maria Koukoulas, John Krull, Aerin Land, JoAnn Luyster, Dan Maloney, James McKinney, Andrew Melnykovych, James Mikulec, Lee Payne, Rachel Pigg, Becca Rastede, Steve Rogers, Melissa Rue, Dave Stewart, Rick Sullivan, Greg Walker, Sean Ward, James Wheat (compiler), Jim Wheatley, Vickie Wheatley, Shonda Williams, Barbara Woerner, Julie Wysong, Ben Yandell, Mary Yandell.

Compiler Comments: We saw 94 species, which is above the average count over the past 20 years (~88 species). The most noteworthy observations of the day include:

* We finally got back on track with 3 American Coot after missing them for 5 years
* Our resident and hopefully nesting Barn Owl was recorded on count day; the first time for this species since 2004 (18 long years)
* Six Horned Larks were noted after being absent since 2016 (6 years)
* It took 62 years to get our second Marsh Wren on the Louisville CBC; it was observed in the Indiana section of the count circle
* Orange-crowned Warblers have been seen for 6 of the last 8 years, including this year
* A beautiful male Western Tanager showed up in Rick and Jamella Sullivan's backyard on count day and has been there since. Clearly this bird is the star of the Louisville CBC! There is a possibility that this is the same bird that appeared just over 3 miles away in 2019, which was observed on count day in that year too.
* A young Indigo Bunting was observed for the first time in 40 years on our CBC

Count week species (rarities): Tundra Swan, Surf Scoter, Black Scoter, Common Yellowthroat, Lincoln's Sparrow; (non-rarities): Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Ruddy Duck, Horned Grebe.

Richmond (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center ca. 0.7 air miles E of jct. US 25 and KY 1983 White Station Road; 37.6311, -84.2638). Habitat: fencerows and roadsides – 20%, woodland – 20%, pasture/open fields – 55%, lawns – 4%, and lakes and ponds – 1%. Dec. 26; 8:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. EST. Cloudy all day with light snow (a.m.); temp. 16–24°F; wind SW, 2–5 m.p.h. Water: Partly open.

Eleven observers in one to five parties (+5 at feeder). Total party-hours: 19.75 (10 on foot, 9.75 by car). Total party-miles: 88.25 (11.25 on foot, 77 by car). Hours feeder watching: 3.75. Total species 61; 2,052 individuals.

Observers: John Abrams, Rebecca Bates (compiler), Gretchen Bolton, Nancy Braun, Lisa Combs, Robert Foster, Kate Houlne, Jennifer Perkins, Carol Poston, Ed Poston, and Dave Svetich.

Compiler Comments: Overall the most remarkable thing about the day was the number of Sandhill Cranes. Some open water on Owsley was within the CBC circle, allowing for an unusually high number of waterfowl that generally would be outside the circle. Count Week species: Northern Shoveler, American Wigeon, Wilson's Snipe, Cedar Waxwing, Hermit Thrush, Brown-headed Cowbird.

Shelbyville (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center .75 mile S of US 60 and Guist Creek Lake on KY 714; 38.18997, -85.14535). Elevation 640-1190 ft. Habitat: farmland, fallow land, suburban, woodland, and grassland. Dec. 17; 7:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST. Partly cloudy (a.m.) to Partly clear (p.m.); temp. 29–36°F; wind SW, 5–15 m.p.h. Water: open.

Thirteen observers in four parties. Total party-hours: 26.75 (13 on foot, 13.75 by car). Total party-miles: 175.25 (10.75 on foot, 164.5 by car). Total species 53; 1,290 individuals.

Observers: Brian Baker, Joan Brown, Sean Brown (compiler), Todd Brown, Carol Challas, Mark Elkins, Kevin Flowers, Scott Hammon, Cathy King, Dan Price, Joanne Price, Walt Reichert, and Keith Richardson.

Compiler Comments: Weather conditions likely contributed to a lower count this year. A cold breeze seemed to cause the birds to stay amongst the vegetation for most of the day, making them hard to spot and identify. Each group leader mentioned having a few more difficulties this year in terms of bird activity. Count week species: None.

Warsaw (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center Gallatin Co. Courthouse; 38.78387, -084.90227). Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 30; 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST. Cloudy with light rain (a.m.) to partly cloudy (p.m.); temp. 56–64°F; wind S, 0–10 mph. Water: open.

Six observers in four parties. Total party-hours: 26 (4 on foot, 22 by car). Total party-miles: 154 (6 on foot, 148 by car). Hours owling: 2. Total species 62; 2,050 individuals.

Observers: Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Ed Groneman (compiler), Brandon Riley, Tom Stephens, and Tim Towles.

Compiler Comments: Weather started out with a few light showers early but remained partly cloudy all day. Good finds were American Pipit and 9 species of waterfowl. Misses were E. Screech Owl, Cedar Waxwing and Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Thanks to all the participants! Count week species: None.

Willisburg (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, Center jct. Hwy 433 and Glen's Creek Rd., Washington County, KY; 38.281260, -85.634810). Habitat: forest – 55%, agricultural – 30%, rural residential – 13%, farm ponds and streams – 2%. Dec. 27; 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. EST. Cloudy; temp. 29–37°F; wind W, 0–5 mph. Water: frozen (still water) to partly frozen (moving water).

Thirteen observers in five parties (+1 at feeder). Total party-hours: 36.75 (33 on foot, 3 by bicycle, .75 by horse and buggy). Total party-miles: 54.5 (32.5 on foot, 16 by bicycle, 6 by horse and buggy). Hours feeder-watching: 0.25. Hours owling: 1.25. Total species 59; 9,132 individuals.

Observers: Ben Mast (compiler), Bethany Mast, Cynthiana Mast, Gabriel Mast, Leroy Mast, Paul Anthony Mast, Eddie Raber, Karen Troyer, Jonathan Yoder, Milan Yoder, Noah Yoder, Willis Yoder, and David Yoder, Jr.

Compiler Comments: The day dawned with steel gray skies and a low breeze. Owl activities were very minimal in the whole circle; however, we did get Great Horned and Short-eared Owls. No very remarkable birds were seen, though a few residents such as Song Sparrow were found in large numbers. Two great count week birds were Loggerhead Shrike and Eurasian Collared-Dove. All in all, a great inaugural CBC!

CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / CUMBERLAND MOUNTAINS

Ashland, Boyd County (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at 3722 Emitt Drive, Ashland, KY; 38.466993, -082.699916). Habitat: forest – 60%, suburban – 20%, roadside and brushy edges – 15%, open land – 3%, and open water and streams – 2%. Dec. 20; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST. Partly cloudy (a.m.) to clear (p.m.); temp. 28–42°F; wind NE, 0–5 mph. Water: open.

Five observers in two to four parties (+1 at feeder). Total party-hours: 21 (8 on foot, 13 by car). Total party-miles: 181 (9 on foot, 172 by car). Hours feeder watching: 1. Total species 57; 2,693 individuals.

Observers: Ronald Canterbury (compiler), Emilie Dixon, Sheri Holsinger, David Johnson, and Dominique McGhee.

Compiler Comments: The Ashland, Boyd County CBC had five observers in the field on 20 December 2022. A total of 57 species were tallied. A total of 181 party hours was accumulated. Compared to previous counts for this CBC, it was rather uneventful in that not many species with highest numbers were noted. Temperatures were mild with no precipitation. There were some noticeable missed species, such as Merlin. High for this count were Lesser Scaup, Herring Gull, and Red-tailed Hawk. Count week species: None.

Cumberland Falls (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center on upper Bark Camp Creek; 36.889994, -084.261105). Habitat: mostly forest (about 70% upland oak and pine, mixed forest, and hemlock forest), about 20% in small rural home lots, small farm holdings, and minimal residential and urban areas, one large reservoir (Laurel River Lake), and about 17 miles of Cumberland River/Lake Cumberland and its riparian forest. Dec. 17; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST. Partly cloudy; temp. 31–44°F; wind N, 0–15 mph. Water: open.

Eight observers in three to five parties. Total party-hours: 43.5 (13.5 on foot, 30 by car). Total party-miles: 206 (9 on foot, 197 by car). Hours owling: 0.5. Total species 60; 1,804 individuals.

Observers: Wendi Allen, Roseanna Denton, Steve Denton, James Kiser, Bret Kuss (compiler), Dominic Mills, Sue Tucker, and Renee Yetter.

Compiler Comments: No new species were added in this the 13th year for the Cumberland Falls count. Wilson's Snipe was observed for only the second time. Low numbers of Red-bellied Woodpecker (12) and Hairy Woodpecker (1) are hardly noteworthy, and neither are the high numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatch (4), Brown Creeper (4), and Winter Wren (6). Common Mergansers continue to be reported on the count, and this is now the seventh time in recent years. Count week species: None.

London (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center at jct. Rte. 3432 and US 25; 37.135376, -084.094161). Habitat as described in 2014. Dec. 14; 6:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST Partly cloudy, with light rain (a.m.) to heavy rain (p.m.); temp. 42–52°F; wind NE, 0–5 mph. Water: open.

Eight observers in two to five parties. Total party-hours: 50 (2 on foot, 48 by car). Total party-miles: 163.5 (1.5 on foot, 162 by car). Total species 62; 3,942 individuals.

Observers: Wendi Allen (compiler), Roseanna Denton, Steve Denton, Kerri Dikun, Bret Kuss, Marie Oakley, Randy Oakley, and Sue Tucker.

Compiler Comments: Our count began and ended with a dreary day; however, we were blessed to see 62 species. One participant, Bret Kuss, saw a Barred Owl with a crayfish in its beak. What a great catch. One Sharp-shinned Hawk was seen outside this sector but within the count circle crossing Hwy 192. We had 42 degrees beginning at 6:45 a.m. and ended the day with a high of 53 degrees. We traveled a total of 183 miles combined and a total of 38 hrs. driving and 3.5 hours walking. We had a total of 62 different species and a lot of fun. We had five separate parties counting and maneuvered the 15-mile circle. Everyone turned in their results to me and the tallies are as follows. 62 different species on a rainy day is success! Count week species: None.

Paintsville (all points within a 7.5-mile radius circle, center jct. KY 23 and KY Route 1750, ca. 3 miles S of Paintsville; 37.769028, -82.804428). Habitat: about 95% forest (40% upland oak-hickory, 55% mesic hardwoods, including poplar, maple, and beech; 5% other species such as pine and hemlock), and about 5% in small rural home lots, small farm holdings, and minimal residential and urban areas; with two large reservoirs (Paintsville Lake and Dewey Lake). Dec. 17; 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST. Partly cloudy (a.m.) to cloudy (p.m.); temp. 35–45°F; wind SW, 7–12 mph. Water: open.

Five observers in one to three parties. Total party-hours: 16.75 (9.25 on foot, 7.5 by car). Total party-miles: 58.25 (7 on foot, 51.25 by car). Total species 49; 1,335 individuals.

Observers: Marilyn Friedhof, Scott Friedhof, Asher Higgins, Evelyn Morgan, and Carla Vanderbilt (compiler).

Compiler Comments: This is only the second year of the Paintsville CBC, and we were lucky to have a day free of rain (compared to last year's very rainy count!). The weather was quite chilly and windy, which may have affected bird activity. We saw very little waterfowl activity on the lakes this year compared to last year. Two parties identified Common Ravens, which was exciting (one group heard raven vocalizations near a known nesting site, and another group identified two ravens vocalizing and performing aerial acrobatics at a site farther away from the nesting site at a park in Prestonsburg). Many more Dark-eyed Juncos were seen this year (all three parties saw large flocks). One section got great looks at four beautiful Purple Finches, and another section enjoyed seeing a particularly large flock of House Finches actively feeding on seeds of common ragweed. Count week species: None.

CBC RESULTS

Christmas Bird Count data for 2022-2023 are provided, in table format, on the KOS website (visit https://www.birdky.org/annualcbc.php). This table is arranged in order of Kentucky physiographic regions, from west to east, and organized alphabetically within each region. Please note that the table only includes birds identified to the species level (i.e., there is no row for *Sharp-shinned/Cooper's Hawk* or *Greater/Lesser Scaup*, etc., though the individuals count for each CBC includes them).

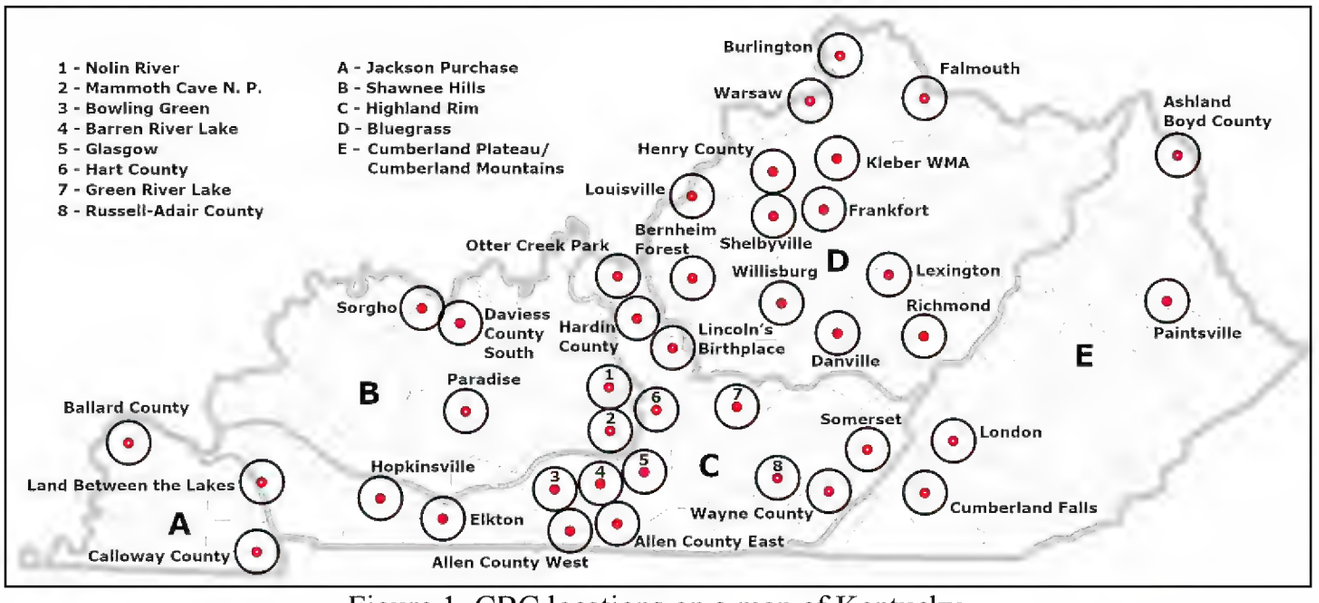


Figure 1. CBC locations on a map of Kentucky.

Rufous Hummingbird – Fayette Co.
13 October 2022, Steve Wilson

Golden-winged Warbler – Metcalfe Co.
18 September 2022, Rickey Shive

NEWS AND VIEWS

Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia "Ginny" Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to KOS and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to birders between the ages of 13 and 18 who live in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition and travel to attend an American Birding Association (ABA) Summer Camp. Details about the ABA camps can be found on the ABA website.

To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundvwkingsolver.php); write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend; and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Applications should be sent to Carol Besse (csbesse@bellsouth.net). Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to KOS at a meeting, or in writing. Scholarship applications are due by May 1 each year, however grants will be subject to ABA camp's space availability.

Gordon Wilson Fund Grants Available

The Gordon Wilson Fund was established in honor of Dr. Gordon Wilson, respected Kentucky ornithologist and one of the three founders of KOS. Grants of up to $5,000 may be requested to fund research, publication costs, and environmental education projects. Members of the Society will receive preference for funding, but others are encouraged to apply. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundgordonwilson.php) or contact Jeremy Teague by mail at 379 Sir Charles Court, Calvert City, KY, 42029-7519, or via email at jeremy.teague@birdky.org.

Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports the education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to $5000, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundannestamm.php) or contact Scott Marsh by mail at 4401 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY, 40509, or via email at SMarsh@Clayingels.com.

Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Grants Available

The Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Fund supports research on birds in Kentucky with monetary awards of up to $5000. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundburtmonroejr.php) or contact Kate Slankard, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601 (kate.slankard@ky.gov).

Recipients of KOS grants are expected to submit research articles or summary reports, which will be published in future issues of *The Kentucky Warbler*.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky (3rd ed.) now available.

By Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

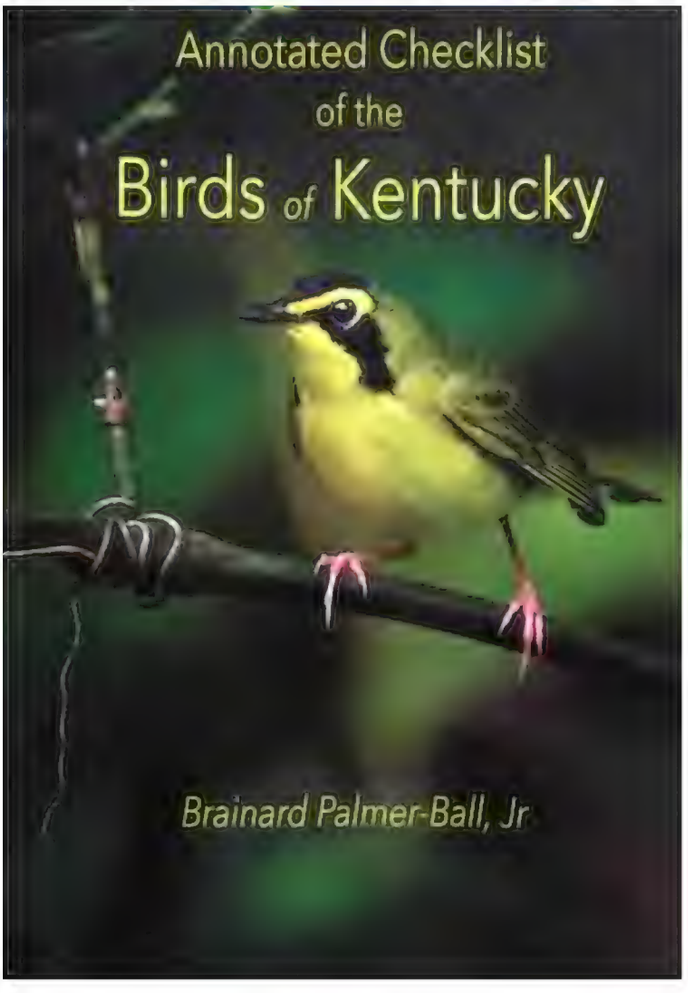
Kentucky Ornithological Society

Paperback 276 pages. 1 August 2019.

"The 3rd edition of the *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky* updates the status and abundance of 390 species that have been documented to have occurred in Kentucky. The 3rd edition has been expanded to include more detailed lists of county distribution of many less common species. Included in species descriptions are brief summaries of status, distribution, seasonal occurrence, and abundance."

– Kentucky Ornithological Society website.

This important reference is available at meetings of the society, through the online bookseller Bookshop.org at https://bookshop.org/shop/kos, and wherever books are sold (see Birdky.org for more details).



◆◆◆◆◆

American Oystercatcher – Barren Co.
31 October 2022, Jamie Baker

Western Kentucky University

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Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 99, No. 2)

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The Kentucky Warbler

Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society

Vol. 99 **MAY 2023** **No. 2**

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR 43

THE WINTER SEASON, DECEMBER 2022–FEBRUARY 2023
Ronan O'Carra 44

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHERS (Haematopus palliatus) IN KENTUCKY
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. & Jamie Baker 52

FIRST KENTUCKY RECORD OF PINK-FOOTED GOOSE (Anser brachyrhynchus)
Ronan O'Carra 54

FIELD NOTES: BLUE JAY PREDATION ON HOUSE FINCH
Andrew Melnykovych 56

NEWS AND VIEWS 58

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

birdky.org

The content of this page reflects the society's standing at the time of publication.

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The Kentucky Warbler

The Kentucky Warbler is the journal of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. It is published quarterly in February, May, August and November, and is sent to current members. Membership dues are: Individual $25.00; Individual Contributing $35.00; Family $30.00; Family Contributing $40.00; Life $500.00 and Student $10.00. Send articles, field notes and other communications relevant to *The Kentucky Warbler* to the Editor. Send membership dues to the Treasurer. Requests for back issues should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary.

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THE COVER

We thank Katey Buster for her photograph of the Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) taken 12 December 2022 in Todd County.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Birders,

As mentioned in the previous issue, the Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS) is celebrating the 100th anniversary of its formation. KOS will celebrate this achievement at our upcoming Fall Meeting. The Fall Meeting will take place at John James Audubon State Park on the weekend of 15–17 of September (www.birdky.org). A history of the KOS is well-documented on our website www.birdky.org.

The Fall Meeting is also when we elect members to the board and KOS is looking for people to join the board. There are 3 open Councillor positions and an opening for Corresponding Secretary. Those wishing to make a nomination, or to volunteer, can reach out to any member of the board.

The winter season was a harsh one for the birds with some severely cold days. We have a report on Blue Jay predation on a House Finch at a feeder during this extreme weather. We saw many birds coming to our feeders during this time (if we were able to stand the cold to fill them) and it brings to mind the necessity of keeping our feeders clean. Regular cleaning will reduce the risk of transmission of disease and help keep us, and the birds, healthy.

The winter season saw the completion of 40 Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) across the state and although the overall report is published in *The Kentucky Warbler,* the actual figures are available on our website www.birdky.org.

If you have an interesting field note on bird behavior, sightings, or anything else of note please feel free to reach out to me for inclusion in a future issue. I'm looking to broaden the number of people who write for the journal and am looking to bring a diverse set of voices to the birders of Kentucky.

Good Birding,

Ronan O'Carra

HISTORY OF THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

With the formation of KOS, the number of state ornithological societies in the South increased to two. The other was the Tennessee Ornithological Society. One of the founders, Albert F. Ganier, encouraged the formation of KOS after first meeting Dr. Wilson in 1919. The first member of KOS was Miss Emily Yunker, school garden and nature study director of the Louisville schools and her dues were fifty cents!

An excerpt from the KOS website. Read more at www.birdky.org/koshistory.php

THE WINTER SEASON, DECEMBER 2022 –FEBRUARY 2022

Ronan O'Carra

Climatic conditions during the winter season, when taken as a whole, were pretty mild, but this ignores the severe cold and warm spells that occured. Overall temperatures for December were about average [-0.6F (West), 0.0F (Central), +0.9F (Bluegrass), +1.0F (East)] but with lows in the negative single digits and highs in the sixties. January was mild [+7.5F (West), +7.7F (Central), +9.1F (Bluegrass), +8.1F (East)] as was February [+7.0F (West), +8.0F (Central), +9.4F (Bluegrass), +8.5F (East)]. Precipitation varied over the season. During December, precipitation was near average [+0.2in (West), -1.1in (Central), -0.7in (Bluegrass), -0.8in (East)], with increased rainfall through January [+3.8in (West), +1.2in (Central), +2.9in (Bluegrass), +0.3in (East)], and average levels again in February [-0.5in (West), -0.9in (Central), +0.8in (Bluegrass), +1.1in (East)].

Sightings are extracted mainly from eBird with supplementary records from the BirdKy LISTSERV and social media. Comments about previous Kentucky bird records rely on the *Annotated Checklist* (Palmer-Ball, Jr., 2019). The species order is based on the Kentucky State List of Birds (Wulker, 2022), with review species being capitalized and state firsts underlined. Reports of note included a first-in-the-state Limpkin, a continuing Pink-footed Goose, as well as Western Grebe, Neotropic Cormorant, Prairie Falcon and Western Tanager.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

Abbreviations – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the "/" symbol is used in place of "and"; "ba." next to an observer's initials indicates that the bird was banded; "ph." next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s) or video; "au." next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with an audio recording; "†" next to an observer's initials indicates that written details about identification or number were submitted with the report; "m.ob." within observer initials indicates that there were multiple observers. "pers. comm." after an observer's initials indicate that the report was personally communicated with the editor. "*fide*" indicates that it was communicated to the subsequent reporter. Location information and observer codes are listed after the report.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck – 8 were reported north of Kevil, *Ballard*, 12 December (ph. MAu, AHi) with multiple reports at a nearby pond (m.ob.) until a single bird was last reported on 7 January (SRe).

Snow Goose – 20,000 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 7 December (ph. JFr, m.ob.) was the highest number reported and large numbers persisted there through the season.

Ross's Goose – 11 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 9 January (†DSo) was the highest number reported. 4 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 28 February (RRo) were the last reported.

Greater White-fronted Goose – 5,000 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 19 December (BPa) was the highest number reported.

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE – Confirmed by KBRC. *Shelby* bird was relocated in north *Jessamine* during the Lexington CBC on 17 December (†SPe, ph. KBi, m.ob.). The bird persisted in the area and was last reported on 1 January (ph. NBr).

Cackling Goose – 50 west of Paducah, *McCracken*, 15 January (†SRe) was a record high number for the state. 4 in north *Fayette*, 12 February (†DLa) were the last reported.

TRUMPETER SWAN – KBRC review required. There were three reports. A long staying juvenile bird at Reformatory Lake, *Oldham*, that was first reported on 24 December and persisted into the spring season (ph. †MWm, m.ob.); 1 west of Hodgenville, *Larue*, 31 December (ph. †RMe); and 1 at Waterworks Rd. Slough, *Henderson*, 12 January (†DSo).

Tundra Swan – 97 at Waterworks Rd. Slough, *Henderson*, 12 January (†DSo) was the highest number reported. 7 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 21 February (TGr) were the last reported.

Blue-winged Teal – A report of 2 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 7 December (†EVi, ph. JFr) and one there on 24 January (†RHa) may indicate an overwintering bird. The first spring birds were reported on 18 February with 2 at Wolf Creek Hatchery, *Russell*, (†COl, EBn, WBt) and 1 in Madisonville, *Hopkins*, (TDi).

Northern Shoveler – 300 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 27 February (DSo) was the highest number reported.

Gadwall – 200 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 7 December (ph. JFr, EVi) was the highest number reported.

American Wigeon – 300 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 28 January (SRe) was the highest number reported.

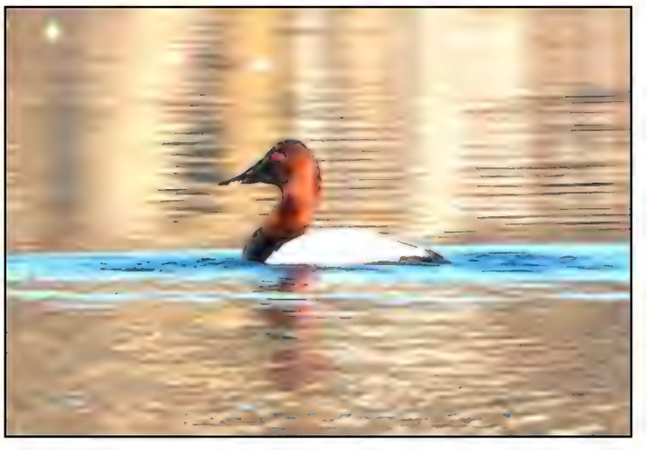
Mallard – 10,000 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 28 January (†SRe) was the highest number reported.

American Black Duck – 40 at Reformatory Lake, *Oldham*, 4 February (BDa) was the highest number reported.

Northern Pintail – 200 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 28 January (SRe) was the highest number reported.

Green-winged Teal – 800 at Lake Number 9, *Fulton*, 18 February (†DBl) was the highest number reported.

Canvasback – 200 at Waterworks Rd. Slough, *Henderson*, 13 January (†DSo) was the highest number reported.



Canvasback – Warren Co.
6 February 2023, Rickey Shive

Redhead – 30 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 9 January (DSo) was the highest number reported.

Ring-necked Duck – 500 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 28 January (SRe) was the highest number reported.

Greater Scaup – 25 on Kentucky Lake off Sherwood Shores, *Marshall*, 4 December (BPa) was the highest number reported.

Lesser Scaup – 1,200 on Lake Barkley above Barkley Dam, *Lyon*, 4 December (BPa) was the highest number reported.

Surf Scoter – There were two reports. Up to 5 on the Ohio River, *Jefferson*, 9/14–15 December (ph. †BPa, m.ob.) and 1 above Newburgh Dam, *Henderson*, 11 January (ph. RRo, DSo, JFa).

White-winged Scoter – There were three reports. 1 on the Ohio River, *Jefferson*, 1 December (ph. †BPa); 1 at Reformatory Lake, *Oldham*, 5–6 February (PBl, †MBr, SBr, ph. WAh, m.ob.); and one on Lexington Reservoirs #2 & #3, *Fayette*, 18–26 February (†DLa, ph. FFa, m.ob.).

Horned Grebe – Fayette Co.
10 December 2022, Katey Buster

Black Scoter – There were two reports. The continuing bird on the Ohio River, *Jefferson*, (m.ob.) that continued into the spring season and 1 on a reservoir in north *Clark* 5–10 December (†DSv, LCo, ph. NBr).

Long-tailed Duck – There was one report of a single bird at Boone's Ridge, *Bell*, 21 December (†DLd).

Bufflehead – 100 on Kentucky Lake off Sherwood Shores, *Marshall*, 4 December (†BPa) was the highest number reported.

Common Goldeneye – 500 on Kentucky Lake off Sherwood Shores, *Marshall*, 4 December (†BPa) was the highest number reported.

Hooded Merganser – 270 on Lexington Reservoirs #2 & #3, *Fayette*, 26 December (†ROc) was the highest number reported.

Common Merganser – 200 on Dewey Lake, *Floyd*, mid-January (ph. †RWx per. comm.) was an extraordinary total and the highest number reported. All other records were in the single figures.

Red-breasted Merganser – 71 on the Ohio River at Six-Mile Island, *Jefferson*, 14 December (BPa) was the highest number reported.

Ruddy Duck – 255 on Lake Barkley above Barkley Dam, *Lyon*, 4 December (†BPa) was the highest number reported.

Ruffed Grouse – There was one report of 2 at Ataya WMA, *Leslie*, 31 December (LBo).

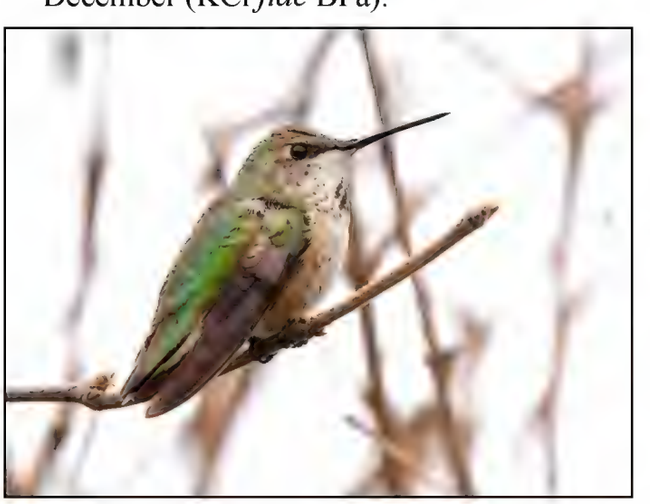
Pied-billed Grebe – 75 at Bailey's Point on Barren River Lake, *Allen*, 20 December (†RDe, DRo, AHu) was the highest number reported.

Horned Grebe – 150 on Kentucky Lake off Sherwood Shores, *Marshall*, 6 January (†BPa, JBa, JTe) was the highest number reported.

Eared Grebe – 1 or 2 continued at Wolf Creek Dam, *Russell*, and were last reported on 10 February (†AHi).

WESTERN GREBE – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird on Barren River Lake at Bailey's Point, *Allen*, 28 January (JBk *fide* AHi).

Rufous Hummingbird – There were three reports. A continuing immature female north of Livermore, *McLean*, was last reported on 22 December (TLo *fide* BPa); a continuing immature female south of Junction city, *Lincoln*, was last reported 1 December (†JSo); and an immature female in Independence, *Kenton*, banded on 13 December (ph. ba. †BPa, m.ob) had been at the location for a while and was last reported on 22 December (KCi *fide* BPa).



Rufous Hummingbird – Kenton Co.
13 December 2022, Toby Darpel

Virginia Rail – There was one report of a single bird at Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*, 1 January (au. †BPa, TGr).

American Coot – 500 at KY Dam Village SRP, *Marshall*, 31 December (DSo) was the highest number reported.

LIMPKIN – Confirmed by KBRC. A first-in-the-state report finally brought Kentucky inline with surrounding states. One was present on a pond northeast of Sharon Grove, *Todd*, 4–12 December (ph. KNe *fide* RBo, m.ob.). The same bird may have been reported nearby at Spa Lake the following week.

Sandhill Crane – 2,000 west of Glasgow, *Barren*, 23 January (†SMo, LCr) was the highest number reported.

Dunlin – There were two reports. 5 at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, 3 December (HCh) and 2 at Frogue Pond, *Todd*, 3 December (JHa).

Least Sandpiper – 2 at Barren River Lake WMA, *Allen*, 27 December (†RSt, VSt) were the last reported.

Pectoral Sandpiper – There were two reports. 1 continuing at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, 3 December (†HCh) was the last fall report. 12 at Curry Pike Marsh, *Mercer*, 24 February (ph. †AHi) were early spring arrivals.

American Woodcock – Jefferson Co.
26 February 2023, Christine Hayden

American Woodcock – 1 on the Paradise CBC, *Muhlenberg*, 1 January (TGr) was the first reported. The next report wasn't until 2 were reported south of Salem, *Livingston*, 7 February (KMi).

Greater Yellowlegs – There was one report of a single bird at Lake Linville, *Rockcastle*, 4 December (†DSv, LCo).

Greater/Lesser Yellowlegs – There was one report of a single bird on the Calloway CBC, *Calloway*, 21 December (ph. AYa, DSa *fide* JWh) that could not be identified to species.

Bonaparte's Gull – 1,700 at Bailey's Point on Barren River Lake, *Allen*, 20 December (†AHu) was the highest number reported.

Ring-billed Gull – 4,000 at Calvert City, *Marshall*, 6 January (†BPa, JBa) was the highest number reported.

Herring Gull – 400 at KY Dam, *Livingston/Marshall*, 26 February (†AHi) was the highest number reported.

Iceland Gull – Marshall Co.
6 January 2023, Jamie Baker

Iceland Gull – There were two reports from the KY Dam, *Marshall/Livingston*. An adult on 6 January (†BPa, ph. JBa) and a first-year bird on 19 February (ph. †DBl).

Lesser Black-backed Gull – 15+ at Calvert City landfill, *Marshall*, 16 December (†BPa) was the highest number reported. All reports were from western Kentucky.

Forster's Tern – Reported from known wintering areas on western Kentucky lakes.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT – KBRC Review required. There was one report of a single bird at Barkley Dam, *Lyon/Livingston*, 21/26–28 February (DRo, †TDu, ph. HCh/m.ob.).

American White Pelican – Reported through the season in the vicinity of Land Between the Lakes and on Barren River Lake. 350 at Jonathan Creek Embayment, *Marshall*, 14 January (ph. †HCh) was the highest number reported.

Great Egret – There was one report of a single bird northeast of Madisonville, *Hopkins*, 10 December (†BCa).

Osprey – One at KY Dam, *Marshall/ Livingston*, 27 February (ph. TSm) was the first reported.

Golden Eagle – Reported from three locations. At Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, an adult was photographed in early December and an immature bird during the first week of January (ph. MCu); Around Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt/Nelson*, single birds were reported from 29 December (†SWa, MKa) and last reported on 11 February (†MYa); and in *Casey* a probable juvenile was noted on 5/6 February (ph. †RDe/†JSo).

Northern Harrier– Double figure numbers were seen in *Logan*, *Hart*, and *Grayson*. The roost near Schochoh, *Logan*, numbered up to 15 individuals during the season (STy, DTy).

Bald Eagle – 25 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 19 December (BPa) was the highest number reported.

Rough-legged Hawk – There were two reports. 1 east of Trenton, *Todd*, reported 18 –20 December (ph. †BPa, SAr, RSh) but having been noted to have been there for about a month (KYo *fide* BPa) and 2 (not seen together) northwest of La Grange, *Oldham*, 27–30 December (†AMe, ph. DBl, m.ob.).

Barn Owl – There were widely dispersed reports from twelve counties.

Short-eared Owl – 14 at a roost near Schochoh, *Logan*, 20 December (†RSh) was the highest number reported.

PRAIRIE FALCON – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird northwest of Monticello, *Wayne*, 15 December (ph. †LBo).

Blue-headed Vireo – There were two reports. 1 at Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 9 December (†KMi) and 1 at Rockcastle River WMA, *Pulaski*, 14 January (†RDe).

American Crow – 22,000 at a roost north of Corbin, *Laurel*, 27 December (†NFa) was the highest number reported.

Tree Swallow – 3 at Gentry Lake, *Metcalfe*, 8 February (†SMo) was an early report.

Red-breasted Nuthatch – 40 off Rockport-Paradise Road, *Muhlenberg*, 1 January (au. †BPa, RRo) was the highest number reported.

Brown-headed Nuthatch – Reported at the known location in London, *Laurel*, (m.ob.) through the season.

House Wren – There were two reports. 1 southwest of Somerset, *Wayne*, 15 December (ph. au. RDe) and 1 on the Allen County East CBC on 27 December (†JBe).

Winter Wren – 12 at Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 17 December (†BPa) was the highest number reported.

Marsh Wren – There were two reports. 1 at Pfeiffer Fish Hatchery, *Franklin*, 3 December (†JFy, JBn) and 1 off Rockport-Paradise Road, *Muhlenberg*, 1 January (au. †BPa, RRo).

Barn Owl – Franklin Co.
15 January 2023, Jeff Sole

American Pipit – 72 northeast of Monticello, *Wayne*, 15 December (AHi) was the highest number reported.

EVENING GROSBEAK – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird north of Carlisle, *Nicholas*, 10 December (ph. †RSa, PSa).

Purple Finch – Boone Co.
23 January 2023, Kathy Caminiti

Purple Finch – Reported across the state. 26 at Peabody WMA, *Ohio*, 1 January (RRo) was the highest number reported.

RED CROSSBILL – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird at Boone Forestlands WMA, *Bell*, 10 December (ph. †LBo).

Pine Siskin – The species was extremely scarce with reports of only 1–5 individuals from slightly more than a dozen locations in eBird over the entire season.

Lapland Longspur – 255 on the Elkton CBC near Allensville, *Todd*, 4 January (†RSt) was the highest number reported.

Fox Sparrow – 23 at Peabody WMA, *Ohio*, 1 January (RRo, BPa) was the highest number reported.

Dark-eyed Junco – 120 at Cave Hill Cemetery, *Jefferson*, 25 January (LPa) was the highest number reported.

HARRIS'S SPARROW – KBRC review required. The continuing bird at Petersburg Cemetery, *Boone*, was last reported on 17 December (au. TTo).

LeConte's Sparrow – There were three reports. 1 near the south end of Lake No. 9, *Fulton*, 8/17 December (ph. au. MGr/†BPa); 1 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 19 December (†HCh, BPa, m.ob.); and 2 or more at Kentucky Bend, *Fulton*, 18 February (†BPa, DBl).

Savannah Sparrow – 200 at Kentucky Bend, *Fulton*, 18 February (ph. †BPa, DBl) was the highest number reported.

Lincoln's Sparrow – There were reports from two locations. 1 at Garvin Brown Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, 19 December/ 1 January (MWa/ph. †DBl); and 1 at Kentucky Bend, *Fulton*, 18 February (†BPa, DBl).

Swamp Sparrow – 500+ at Kentucky Bend, *Fulton*, 18 February (†BPa, DBl) represented a new record high number for the state.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD – KBRC review required. There were two reports. 1 at Western KY University Agricultural Center, *Warren*, 15–16/18 December (DRo, †RSh/ph. †BFe) and 1 in farmland northeast of Ellis Park, *Henderson*, 11 January (†DSo).

Yellow-headed Blackbird – Warren Co.
18 December 2022, Blaine Ferrell

Western Meadowlark – There was one report of at least 2 in northwest *McCracken* 19/28 December (ph. BPa, TGr/ph. †PSp, DSo).

Rusty Blackbird – 300 in north *Henderson* on 11 January (†DSo) was the highest number reported.

Brewer's Blackbird – There were reports of up to 18 from seven localities, mostly in the western one-third of the state. A few were again found wintering east of Flaherty, *Meade*, 31 December (ph. BPa).

Common Yellowthroat – There was one report of a single bird at Arthur K. Draut Park, *Jefferson*, 19 December (ph. †BKr).

Northern Parula – There was one report of a single bird at KY Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Headquarters, *Franklin*, 2 December (†MPa).

WESTERN TANAGER – KBRC review required. A male was present in a yard in the St. Regis Park area of Louisville, *Jefferson*, 18 December (ph. †RSv) and continuing into the spring season (m.ob.).

Brewer's Blackbird – Fulton Co.
18 February 2023, David Bailey

Indigo Bunting – There was one report of an immature bird in central *Jefferson* on 18 December (†MCa).

References

eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD_relFeb-2023. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Feb 2023.

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LOCATIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS (*Italics* indicate a county name)

Most locations are based on their eBird Hotspot Name

CBC = Christmas Bird Count
Crappie Hollow = Upper reaches of Blood River Embayment of Kentucky Lake
Jonathan Creek Embayment = Jonathan Creek Embayment of Kentucky Lake
NWR = National Wildlife Refuge
Sauerheber = Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit
SRP = State Resort Park
WMA = Wildlife Management Area

KEY TO OBSERVER CODES

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AHu – Aaron Hulsey
AMe – Andrew Melnykovych
AYa – Aviva Yasgur
BCa – Beverly Carrico
BDa – Brian Davis
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DSo – David Stone
DSv – David J Svetich
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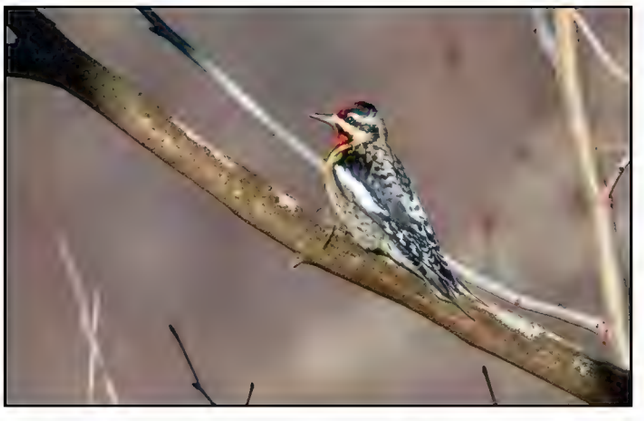

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – Jefferson Co.
28 January 2023, Mark Elkins

Hermit Thrush – Fayette Co.
13 February 2023, Steve Wilson

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHERS (*Haematopus palliatus*) IN KENTUCKY

On the afternoon of 31 October 2022 the authors birded at Barren River Lake, Allen and Barren counties, Kentucky. We had made a circuit of the lake and were stopping to scan for waterbirds at one last location, The Narrows marina, before calling it a day. While scanning the areas of open water, Palmer-Ball began hearing a call that sounded like an American Oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*) off to the north. The high-pitched whistle would be heard a time or two over several seconds, then not again for several minutes. At one point the source of the sound was thought to be an Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) foraging over the lake in the direction of the sound, but that seemed implausible. Unable to determine what was making the call, at least a couple of times we forgot about it and continued to bird.

About the time we were thinking of packing up our scopes, we began hearing *two* different individuals — still sounding like oystercatchers — calling to each other, one farther away than the other. It was at that point that we finally glimpsed a large shorebird flying in from a more distant point towards the close shoreline not far to the right of us. Somewhat incredulously we realized that the bird was, indeed, an American Oystercatcher, and it came in to land next to a second one giving the ringing contact call so characteristic of the species.

The pair of birds was comprised of an adult and a hatch-year bird, the latter apparent due to somewhat less vivid plumage and a dusky wash to the outer two-thirds of its bill. Amazingly, the adult bird was color banded with yellow bands inscribed with "F2" in black on them. The bird also wore a metal band on one leg.

For the next hour or so, the two oystercatchers slowly worked along the cobble and mud shoreline of the lake, although we could not tell if they were securing any food. They then went to sleep as a shower passed overhead. After the shower passed, the two birds flew north around the visible points but were soon relocated in a small bay off the campground. They continued to slowly walk and rest along the shoreline until it got dark. On the morning of 1 November 2022, several birders tried to relocate the oystercatchers, but they could not be found.

The color-banded adult bird was quickly found to have originated from Nantucket Island, Nantucket County, Massachusetts, where it was banded as an adult bird in 2006, making it at least 19 years old! F2 was documented as a male during field observations of courtship and copulation there, and he was one of the first males to return to the Nantucket breeding area each spring. F2 was well-known to staff with the Nantucket Conservation Foundation, which has been a long time partner in the color-banding and resight research being undertaken by the American Oystercatcher Working Group (K. Beattie, pers. comm.). F2 was known to traditionally winter on the Gulf Coast of Florida usually at Horseshoe Beach, Dixie County, but sometimes not far away near Cedar Key, Levy County, with dozens of other American Oystercatchers (L. Addison, pers. Comm.).

American Oystercatcher – Barren Co.
31 October 2022, Jamie Baker

American Oystercatcher – Barren Co.
31 October 2022, Jamie Baker

The occurrence of the color banded adult in Kentucky was not yet complete, however, as on 5 November 2022, the news came across the Birdky LISTSERV from Ethan Wells that an exhausted American Oystercatcher had been found along a highway in Jackson County, Kentucky, 2 November 2022. It subsequently had been turned in to the Liberty Nature Center the following day.

As it turned out, astonishingly the oystercatcher that was retrieved in Jackson County was the color-banded adult F2 that had been in the company of the hatch-year bird at Barren River Lake a few days earlier. Apparently a resident of Tyner, Kentucky, Charlie Wilson, and his family had noticed the strange looking bird along the side of KY 3630 near the intersection with Roark Road northeast of the community of Annville. The bird was turned over to Jackson County Constable, Steve Gill, who passed it along the following morning to Wildlife Technician, Ryan Jones, with the Ky. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Jones immediately transported it to the Liberty Nature Center in Casey County. Rehabilitators attempted to rehydrate the bird and feed it crayfish, but unfortunately it did not recover and died.

This represents the first record of American Oystercatcher in Kentucky and one of only a very few inland reports. Most non-coastal records in eastern and central North America have been attributable to the passage of the remnants of tropical cyclones. Cornell's eBird database contains reports from northwest Alabama, along the Alabama/Georgia state line, and on the eastern Great Lakes, as well as a few in most Atlantic Coast states (eBird 2023). Whether or not the presence of Hurricane Fiona or Hurricane Ian, both of which impacted the Atlantic coast states with high winds during prior weeks, could explain the presence of these large, coastal shorebirds in Kentucky will remain a mystery.

Thanks are extended to Lindsay Addison (Audubon North Carolina and the American Oystercatcher Working Group), and Karen Beattie (Nantucket Conservation Foundation, Inc., and the American Oystercatcher Working Group), for providing a wealth of information on the banded adult bird, F2. Some information about F2 can be found on the Nantucket Conservation Foundation web site at: https://www.nantucketconservation.org/taking-attendance-of-our-oystercatchers/.

Source Cited

eBird. 2023. eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [web application]. eBird, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Available: http://www.ebird.org. (Accessed: January 15, 2023).

–Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (brainard@mindspring.com) and Jamie Baker (jamiedarylbaker@gmail.com).

◆◆◆◆◆

FIRST KENTUCKY RECORD OF PINK-FOOTED GOOSE (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)

Pink-footed Goose is a mostly brown goose with a pale gray sheen on the wings, white around the tail, and bright pink legs. It is about the size of a Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) and therefore a great deal smaller than the Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*) with which it is usually found. It is a European goose that breeds in eastern Greenland and Iceland with a second breeding group on Svalbard (Spitsbergen). The Greenland/Iceland groups usually winter in Great Britain and Ireland while the Svalbard group usually winters in continental Europe (Carboneras 2020). In the last 60 years the British wintering population has increased 10-fold (Howell 2014).

Pink-footed Goose – Jessamine Co.
17 Dceember 2022, Kyle Bixler

The increase in Pink-footed Goose population has seen a concomitant increase in vagrant reports. The first accepted report for Pink-footed Goose in North America was one reported in Newfoundland in early May 1990 (Howell 2014). Up to the year 2000 there were only about 10 records. This has increased to where there are now 10–15 individuals reported each year (eBird 2023). Apart from a couple of outliers, reports have been confined to the northeast of the continent.

It was surprising then, when on November 16, 2022, Lori Ault posted a picture of an unknown goose species to the Kentucky Birders group on Facebook. First presumed to be a domestic goose, her pictures showed enough to indicate that the bird seemed to be a Pink-footed Goose. The photo sent birders to the location that evening and first light the next morning. Additional photographs and firsthand reports clearly identified the bird as a Pink-footed Goose, the provenance of which is not in question due to increased vagrancy noted above. The Pink-footed Goose moved around with a flock of Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*) to different water bodies in the area leading to a few wild goose chases. It remained in the area until 26 November by which time it had been seen by over 210 individuals (eBird Dataset).

Pink-footed Goose – Jessamine Co.
17 Dceember 2022, Kyle Bixler

This was not the end of the story. On 17 December, Kyle Bixler and Sydney Penner were undertaking their regular section of the Lexington Christmas Bird Count. While on private farmland along Keene Road they came across the presumed same Pink-footed Goose (some coloration specifics indicated that it was the Shelby County bird). The goose flock again moved around a number of water bodies in the area until it was last seen by Nancy Braun on 1 January 2023. Here again every effort was made to get those who were interested, over 40 individuals (eBird Dataset), a

view of this rare bird. People came from across Kentucky and many of the neighboring states to see Kentucky's first Pink-footed Goose.

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–Ronan O'Carra (ronan.o.carra@gmail.com)

Sandhill Crane – Larue Co.
6 January 2023, Jeff Sole

FIELD NOTES: BLUE JAY (*Cyanocitta cristata*) PREDATION ON HOUSE FINCH (*Haemorhous mexicanus*)

On the morning of December 23, 2022, at approximately 9:15 a.m., a Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) was observed killing, partially consuming, and ultimately flying away with the remains of a House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*).

The predation took place on a pole-mounted platform feeder about five feet high located in the backyard of a residence in Douglass Hills, Jefferson County, Kentucky. Weather conditions at the time were extreme, with a temperature around zero degrees F, light snow, and wind chills well below zero.

Although Blue Jays are well known nest predators, taking both eggs and young birds, instances of predation on adult birds are apparently uncommon. The species entry in The Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's Birds of the World (Smith, et. al., 2020) cites several instances of Blue Jay predation on other birds outside a nest, with most involving either fledgling birds or opportunistic attacks on birds stunned by window strikes.

Blue Jay – Jefferson Co.
23 December 2022, Andrew Melnykovych

It is possible that the House Finch involved in this incident was compromised by the weather and – similar to a stunned bird – unable to evade the Blue Jay. The initial attack by the Blue Jay was not observed. However, the House Finch was visibly struggling when the predation was noted, and thus was alive when attacked.

The Blue Jay subdued the House Finch by pecking at it vigorously, focusing on the head. It then began feeding, beginning with the head. Shortly thereafter, the Blue Jay picked up the dead House Finch and flew away, presumably to continue feeding. The entire episode lasted about 90 seconds.

Interestingly, the predation drew no notice from other birds – in contrast to the uniform flight reaction that occurs when raptors attack small birds at the same feeders. Other House Finches as well as Mourning Doves (*Zenaida macroura*), Dark-eyed Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*), Northern Cardinals (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), and other species continued eating on the opposite end of the platform feeder and at nearby feeders.

The observation was entered in eBird: https://ebird.org/checklist/S124464672

Source Cited

Smith, K.G., K.A. Tarvin, and G.E. Woolfenden (2020). Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), version 1.0. In Birds of the World (A. F. Poole, Editor). Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY, USa https://doi.org/10.2173/bow.blujay.01

–Andrew Melnykovych (estiles74@gmail.com)

Loggerhead Shrike – Garrard Co.
28 January 2023, Daniel Patrick

Peregrine Falcon – Jefferson Co.
19 February 2023, Jack Kew

Lesser Black-backed Gull – Lyon Co.
28 January 2023, Rickey Shive

NEWS AND VIEWS

Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia "Ginny" Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to KOS and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to birders between the ages of 13 and 18 who live in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition and travel to attend an American Birding Association (ABA) Summer Camp. Details about the ABA camps can be found on the ABA website.

To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundvwkingsolver.php); write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend; and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Applications should be sent to Carol Besse (csbesse@bellsouth.net). Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to KOS at a meeting, or in writing. Scholarship applications are due by May 1 each year, however grants will be subject to ABA camp's space availability.

Gordon Wilson Fund Grants Available

The Gordon Wilson Fund was established in honor of Dr. Gordon Wilson, respected Kentucky ornithologist and one of the three founders of KOS. Grants of up to $5,000 may be requested to fund research, publication costs, and environmental education projects. Members of the Society will receive preference for funding, but others are encouraged to apply. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundgordonwilson.php) or contact Jeremy Teague by mail at 379 Sir Charles Court, Calvert City, KY, 42029-7519, or via email at jeremy.teague@birdky.org.

Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports the education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to $5000, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundannestamm.php) or contact David Bailey by mail at Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund, 706 Dorsey Way, Louisville, KY 40223 , or via email at david.bailey@birdky.org.

Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Grants Available

The Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Fund supports research on birds in Kentucky with monetary awards of up to $5000. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundburtmonroejr.php) or contact Kate Slankard, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601 (kate.slankard@ky.gov).

Recipients of KOS grants are expected to submit research articles or summary reports, which will be published in future issues of *The Kentucky Warbler*.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky (3rd ed.) now available.

By Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

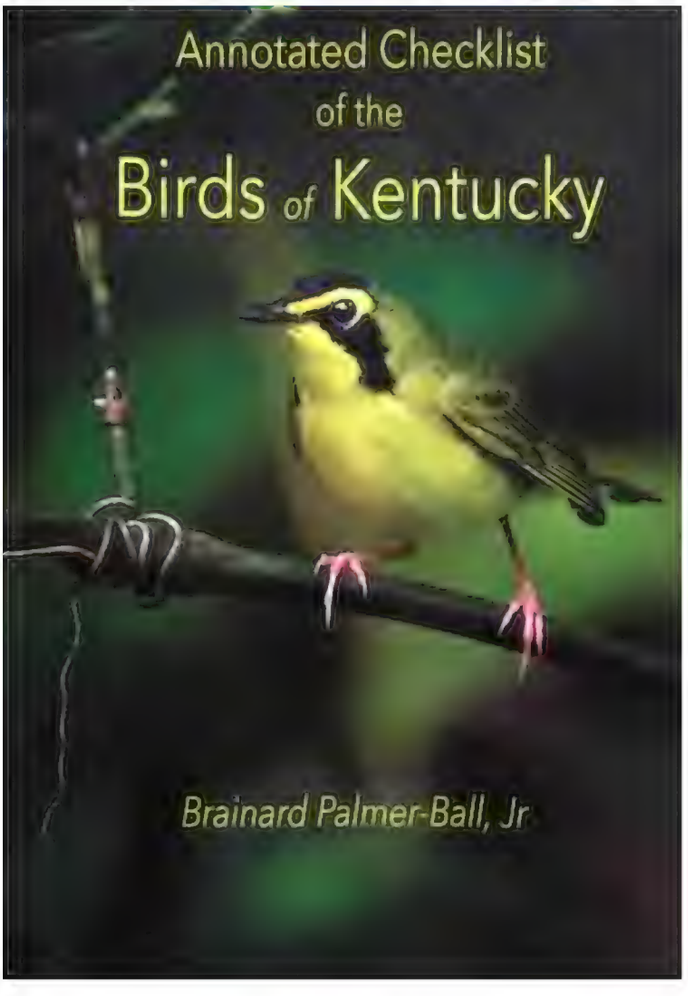
Kentucky Ornithological Society

Paperback 276 pages. 1 August 2019.

"The 3rd edition of the *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky* updates the status and abundance of 390 species that have been documented to have occurred in Kentucky. The 3rd edition has been expanded to include more detailed lists of county distribution of many less common species. Included in species descriptions are brief summaries of status, distribution, seasonal occurrence, and abundance."

– Kentucky Ornithological Society website.

This important reference is available at meetings of the society, through the online bookseller Bookshop.org at https://bookshop.org/shop/kos, and wherever books are sold (see Birdky.org for more details).



Trumpeter Swan – Oldham Co.
29 December 2022, Eric Nally

Harris's Sparrow – Boone Co.
3 December 2022, Karol Wilson

Western Tanager – Jefferson Co.
20 January 2023, Kevin Flowers

Western Meadowlark
McCracken Co.
28 December 2022, Pam Spaulding

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The Kentucky Warbler

Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society

Vol. 99 **AUGUST 2023** **No. 3**

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR 63

THE SPRING SEASON, MARCH–MAY 2023
Ronan O'Carra 64

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (KOS) SPRING 2023 MEETING
Janet Kistler 78

FIRST KENTUCKY RECORD OF BROWN BOOBY (*Sula leucogaster*)
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 84

NEWS AND VIEWS 86

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

birdky.org

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The Kentucky Warbler

The Kentucky Warbler is the journal of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. It is published quarterly in February, May, August and November, and is sent to current members. Membership dues are: Individual $25.00; Individual Contributing $35.00; Family $30.00; Family Contributing $40.00; Life $500.00 and Student $10.00. Send articles, field notes and other communications relevant to *The Kentucky Warbler* to the Editor. Send membership dues to the Treasurer. Requests for back issues should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary.

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THE COVER

We thank James Wheat for his photograph of the Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*) taken 21 May 2023 in Union County.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Birders,

My apologies for the delay in getting this issue published.

We had a great time at John James Audubon State Park celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS) , a report on which will be forthcoming in the February issue. This issue relates to the 2023 spring season and as such a report on the spring meeting is included.

We would like to welcome our new President and councilors (listed on the preceding page) and offer our appreciation to those whose tenures have ended, although they are still deeply involved in the organization.

This issue includes a note on the first record of Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*) in the state from 2022. It was also expected to include a report on the first record for Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) but reports of this species have continued to come in from new locations across the state so we will report on this when all reports for 2023 are compiled.

While most are excited about those rare finds, make sure to enjoy the more common species as there is always something new to find out and enjoy from vocalizations, interactions and distributions. It's good to make note of these things while checking off birds on a list.

Good Birding,

Ronan O'Carra

HISTORY OF THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY – III

The Society continued to grow, increasing its membership and its commitment to the study of ornithology in Kentucky. Among the achievements since its founding:

- Twice yearly meetings since 1924 (except 3 years during WWII) allowing members to hone their birding skills and learn about conservation and environmental protection updates.
- Initiated publication of a quarterly journal, *The Kentucky Warbler*, now nearing 100 years of publication.
- Participation by KOS members in the Christmas Bird Counts since the Society's beginning.
- KOS members in Louisville and Murray assisted in counting migrating birds…

An excerpt from the KOS website. Read more at www.birdky.org/koshistory.php

THE SPRING SEASON, MARCH–MAY 2023

Ronan O'Carra

Climatic conditions during the spring season were about average temperature-wise but precipitation was variable with heavy downpours amongst dry spells. Temperatures were slightly above average for March [+1.0F (West), +0.9F (Central), +2.0F (Bluegrass), +0.6F (East)] and April [+0.1F (West), -0.6F (Central), +1.1F (Bluegrass), +0.9F (East)] but slightly below average for May [+0.6F (West), -0.3F (Central), -0.4F (Bluegrass), -1.3F (East)]. Precipitation varied over the season. During March it was a lot wetter in the west but more than half of that rain came on a single day in early March [+4.6in (West), +1.4in (Central), -0.0in (Bluegrass), -0.6in (East)], rainfall was well below average for April [-1.3in (West), -2.9in (Central), -2.1in (Bluegrass), -1.4in (East)], and May [-0.9in (West), -1.2in (Central), -2.9in (Bluegrass), -1.4in (East)].

Sightings are extracted mainly from eBird with supplementary records from the BirdKy LISTSERV and social media. Comments about previous Kentucky bird records rely on the *Annotated Checklist* (Palmer-Ball, Jr., 2019). The species order is based on the Kentucky State List of Birds (Wulker, 2022), with review species being capitalized and state firsts underlined. Reports of note included multiple reports of Limpkin, Trumpeter Swan, Cinnamon Teal, Western Grebe, Red Knot, Neotropic Cormorant, Tricolored Heron, both Ibis, Swallow-tailed Kite, Evening Grosbeak, and both continuing Harris's Sparrow and Western Tanager.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler.*

Abbreviations – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the "/" symbol is used in place of "and"; "ba." next to an observer's initials indicates that the bird was banded; "ph." next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s) or video; "au." next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with an audio recording; "†" next to an observer's initials indicates that written details about identification or number were submitted with the report; "m.ob." within observer initials indicates that there were multiple observers. "pers. comm." after an observer's initials indicate that the report was personally communicated with the editor. "*fide*" indicates that it was communicated to the subsequent reporter. Location information and observer codes are listed after the report.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck – Reported in five counties. Birds first started returning in early April with 1–3 being reported southeast of Bowling Green, *Warren*, (ph. †TTh) during the first two weeks of the month. There were two reports in *McCracken* with 3 in Paducah on 15 April (ph. DPu, m.ob.) and 6 northwest of Paducah 22–23 April (ph. SRe). There were additional reports of 7 southwest of Henderson, *Henderson*, 20 April (†DSo); 12 at Pulaski County Park, *Pulaski*, 7 May (ph. RDe, m.ob.) and 2 in Madisonville, *Hopkins*, 26 May (ph. TBy).

Snow Goose – 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 25 April (ph. †BPa, JBa, PBl) was the last reported.

Greater White-fronted Goose – 1 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 27 May (†SRe) was the last reported.

TRUMPETER SWAN – KBRC review required. The long-staying juvenile bird at Reformatory Lake, *Oldham*, was last reported 27 May (ph. †AEn) having been joined by a second bird from 24 April (†APy).

Trumpeter Swan – Oldham Co.
5 March 2023, David Bailey

Tundra Swan – 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 23 March (ph. CCr) was the last reported.

Blue-winged Teal – 350 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 19 April (†RRo) was the highest number reported.

CINNAMON TEAL – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 28 March (ph. CCr, m.ob.).

Northern Shoveler – 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 22 May (SRe) was the last reported.

Gadwall – 400 in a flooded field north of Geneva, *Henderson*, 3 March (KMi) was the highest number reported. Last reported on 25 April with 1 in south *Todd* (RSh); 2 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, (KMi); and 2 in east *Fayette* (DSv).

American Wigeon – Most had left by the third week of April with a couple of individuals hanging on later in the season (1 in north *Clark* 25/30 May (†DSv) and 1 in southwest *Jessamine* 9 June (†DPa).

American Black Duck – 2 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 28 March (BMe, KMi, BUe) were the last reported.

Northern Pintail – 1,200 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs *Henderson*, 2 March (ph. †DSo) was the highest number reported. 12 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 26 March (DSo) were the last reported.

Green-winged Teal – 1,000 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 14 March (†DSo) was the highest number reported. 2 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 18 May (ph. DSo) were the last reported.

Canvasback – 4 at Horseshoe Rd. Slough, *Henderson*, 25 March (†DSo) were the last reported.

Redhead – 100 at Lake Peewee, *Hopkins*, 4 March (BCa) was the highest number reported. 1 at Curry Pike Marsh Ponds, *Mercer*, 25 April (ROc, KBi) was the last reported.

Ring-necked Duck – 500 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 14 March (DSo) was the highest number reported. A few stragglers remained into late May and early June.

Greater Scaup – 2+ amongst a raft of Lesser Scaup at Garvin Brown Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, 2 April (ph. †KFl, CCs) were the last reported.

Lesser Scaup – 3 at KY Dam, *Marshall*, 20 May (HCh, MEa) were likely injured birds and lingered into the summer.

Surf Scoter – There were two reports. 2 on the Ohio River at Meldahl Locks & Dam, *Bracken*, 14–20 March (ph. †TCz, m.ob.) reported from the Ohio side but in Kentucky waters and 2 at Bailey's Point on Barren River Lake, *Allen*, 31 March (ph.† RSh).

Black Scoter – The wintering bird on the Ohio River in Louisville, *Jefferson*, was last reported 18 March (†DBl).

Long-tailed Duck – There was one report of a single bird on the Ohio River above Cannelton Dam, *Hancock*, 8–25 March (KLa, ph. SDa, m.ob.) first seen from the Indiana side but always located in Kentucky waters.

Bufflehead – 3 at KY Dam, *Marshall*, 20 May (ph. †HCh, MEa) were the last reported.

Common Goldeneye – 2 at KY Dam, *Marshall*, 20 May (HCh, MEa) were the last reported with a single bird lingering into the summer.

Hooded Merganser – There was a first confirmed breeding for *Woodford* with a female with young reported south of Versailles 11 April (ph. BWt).

Red-breasted Merganser – 1 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 26 May (†DSk, BCa) was the last reported.

Ruddy Duck – 1 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 21 May (DSv, ph. FFa, m.ob.) was the last reported.

Pied-billed Grebe – 2 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 24 May (†EBy) were the last reported.

Horned Grebe – 1 north of Winchester, *Clark*, 9–20 May (†DSv, LCo) was the last reported.

Eared Grebe – Jefferson Co.
25 April 2023, Jamie Baker

Eared Grebe – There was one report of a single bird on the Ohio River in Louisville, *Jefferson*, 25 April (ph. †BPa, m.ob.).

WESTERN GREBE – KBRC review required. There was one report of a probable continuing bird on Barren River Lake at Bailey's Point, *Allen*, 30 March–4 April (DRo *fide* ph. RSh, m.ob.).

White-winged Dove – Up to 2 reported from the usual location in downtown Lexington, *Fayette*, from 24 May (ph. †RGr, m.ob.).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – First reported 25 April with 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, (PBl, m.ob.) and 1 at Jessamine Creek Gorge Preserve, *Jessamine*, (EDo).

Black-billed Cuckoo – 1 at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, 4 May (BLe) was the first reported.

Common Nighthawk – 1 in Paris, *Bourbon*, 20 April (†ANn) was the first reported. 50 at Harris-Dickerson WMA, *Hopkins*, 9 May (†TGr) was the highest number reported.

Chuck-will's-widow – 1 east of Madisonville, *Muhlenberg*, 18 April (TGr) was the first reported.

Eastern Whip-poor-will – 1 north of Mayfield, *Graves*, 4 April (au. KSm) was the first reported.

Chimney Swift – First reported 28 March with 1 at Long Run Park, *Jefferson*, (SEn) and 2 west of Guthrie, *Todd*, (JHa).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 1 southeast of Somerset, *Pulaski*, 26 March (†JSp) was the first reported.

Virginia Rail – 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 22 April (DSo) was the first reported. 2 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 13 May (SBs) were the last reported.

Sora – 1 at Muhlenberg Co. Rail Trail, *Muhlenberg*, 12 April (TGr) was the first reported. 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 18 May (DSo) was the last reported.

White-winged Dove – Fayette Co.
25 May 2023, James Wheat

Common Gallinule – There was one report of a single bird at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 3–4/9 May (ph. †JTe, m.ob./†DSo).

American Coot – 1 north of Georgetown, *Scott*, 22 May (ph. CLe) was the last reported.

LIMPKIN – KBRC review required. Following a first-in-the-state report last season there were three reports during spring. 1 at Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 30 April/4 May (ph. AOw/†DHs); 1 at Shelby Lake, *Shelby*, 2–7 May (ph. †TLn, m.ob.); and 1 at John James Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 9 May (ph. JFa, †DSo).

Sandhill Crane – 1 west of Walton, *Boone*, 19 April (TYo) was the last reported.

Black-necked Stilt – 1 at Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 22 March (ph. †DCr) was the first reported. 1 in east *Fayette* 21–22 May (ph. DSv, m.ob.) was the most easterly and last report of the season.

American Avocet – There were three reports. 30+ in north *Bullitt* 21 April with some staying into the first week of May (ph. JFu *fide* BPa); 28 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 23 April (ph. TGr, m.ob.); and 19 at KY Dam Village SRP, *Marshall*, 26 April (ph. RCd, m.ob.).

Black-bellied Plover – 4 on farmland north of Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 6 May (†BPa) were the first reported. 40 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 20 May (†DBl) was the highest number reported with reports carrying on at this location into the summer season.

American Golden-Plover – 55 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 25 March (ph. †DSo) were the first reported. 1,000+ north of Hickman, *Fulton*, 13 April (†BPa) was the highest number reported. 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 20 May (†KMi) was the last reported.

Semipalmated Plover – First reported 13 April with 3 north of Hickman, *Fulton*, 13 April (ph. BPa); 1 at Lower Hickman Bottoms, *Fulton*, (BPa); 1 in north *Henderson* (TGr); and 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, (ph. DSo). 219 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 26 April (†DSo) was the highest number reported.

Marbled Godwit – There was one report of a single bird at the Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 21 April (ph. BPa, m.ob.).

Ruddy Turnstone – There were two reports. 1 at Curry Pike Marsh Ponds, *Mercer*, 10 May (†SPe, ph. KBi) and 2 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 20 May (ph. †DBl, m.ob.).

RED KNOT – KBRC review required. There was one report of 2 north of Uniontown, *Union*, 20–21 May (ph. †DSo, m.ob.).

Stilt Sandpiper – 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 11 April (DSo) was the first reported. 15 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 18 May (ph. DSo) were the last reported.

Sanderling – There was one report of a single bird at Horse Pond Slough, *Henderson*, 19 May (†DSo).

Dunlin – 8 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, 31 March (ph. †JWh, JJc) were the first reported. 150 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 6 May (ph.†DSo, m.ob.) was the highest number reported. 1 in north *Union* 29 May (ph. CCr) was the last reported.

Least Sandpiper – 3 north of Glasgow, *Barren*, 6 March (†LCr) were the first reported. 100 west of Miller, *Fulton*, 6 May (BPa) was the highest number reported. 12 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 26 May (DSk) were the last reported.

White-rumped Sandpiper – 1 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, 4 May (MMs) was the first reported. 2 north of Uniontown, *Union*, 26 May (JTe) were the last reported.

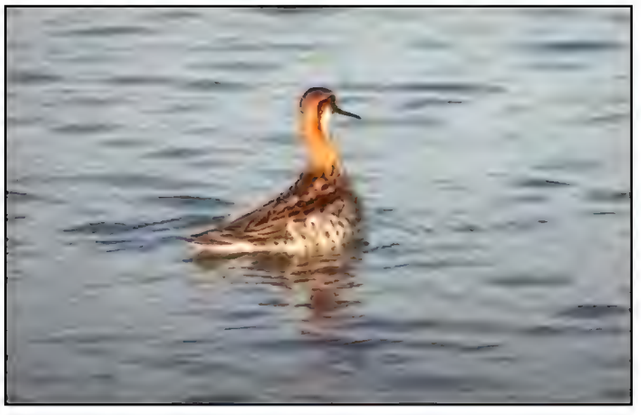
Pectoral Sandpiper – 1,500 north of Hickman, *Fulton*, 13 April (†BPa) was the highest number reported. 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 29 May (CCr) was the last reported.

Semipalmated Sandpiper – 1 at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 13 April (†HCh, MEa) was the first reported. 100 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 13 May (BPa) was the highest number reported. Reports continued into the summer season.

Short-billed Dowitcher – 1 west of Miller, *Fulton*, 23 April (ph. au. BPa) was the first reported. 2 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 19 May (KMi) were the last reported.

Long-billed Dowitcher – 48 at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 11 March (ph. HCh, MEa) were an early first report. 81 at Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 23 April (†BPa) was the highest number reported. 1 at Hays Kennedy Park, *Jefferson*, 14 May (ph. †KBk) was the last reported.

Wilson's Snipe – 101 at Auburn Cemetery, *Logan*, 15 March (ph. †RSh) was the highest number reported. 1 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, 14 May (†DSv) was the last reported.



Red-necked Phalarope – Rowan Co. 29 May 2023, Nancy Braun

Spotted Sandpiper – 1 north of Winchester, *Clark*, 7 April (†DSv) was the first reported.

Solitary Sandpiper – 1 east of Paris, *Bourbon*, 30 March (ph. RGr) was the first reported. 40 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 18 April (†DBl) was the highest number reported. 1 in east *Fayette* 26 May (DSv) was the last reported.

Lesser Yellowlegs – 1 at River Slough, *Henderson*, 1 March (DSo) was the first reported. 600 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 25 April (†KMi) was the highest number reported. 2 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*,5 June (ph. CCr) were the last reported.

Willet – 3 southwest of Edmonton, *Metcalfe*, 23 April (ph. RSh) were the first reported. 65 at Otter Pond, *Caldwell*, 25 April (†TGr) was the highest number reported. 2 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 16 May (†KMi) were the last reported.

Greater Yellowlegs – 1 at River Slough, *Henderson*, 1 March (ph. CCr) was the first reported. 235 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 13 April (†RRo) was the highest number reported. 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 26 May (SWa) was the last reported.

Wilson's Phalarope – There were three reports. 1 at Curry Pike Marsh Ponds, *Mercer*, 22–23 April (KBi, ph. †ROc, m.ob.); 2 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 5–6 May (ph. AKo, m.ob.); and up to 3 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 7–9 May (ph. †DBl, m.ob.).

Red-necked Phalarope – There were two reports. 5 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 21 May (ph. JFa, m.ob.) and 1 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, 29 May (†DSv, ph. NBr).

Bonaparte's Gull – 1 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, 14 May (DSv) was the last reported.

Laughing Gull –There were two reports. 1 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 6 May (ph. †RGr) and 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 22 May (ph. †DBl, m.ob.).

Franklin's Gull – There was one report of a flyover bird at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 9 May (†ROc, NBr).

Ring-billed Gull – A number of birds remained in western parts of the state into the summer season.

Herring Gull – 2 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 28 May (ph. †BPa) were the last reported.

Lesser Black-backed Gull – 1 at KY Dam, *Marshall*, 30 April (ph. †BPa, KCi, JCm) was the last reported.

Least Tern – 1 at Audubon Wetlands, *Henderson*, 10 May (RRo) was the first reported.

Caspian Tern – 2 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 10 April (JSp) were the first reported.

Black Tern – Only reported from *Henderson* with 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs 14 May (ph. CCr); 2 and 3 on the Ohio River, upstream from Mt. Vernon Towhead Island, 14/18 May (DSo).

Common Tern – There was one report of 2 at Fishing Creek Rec. Area, *Pulaski*, 7 May (ph. †RDe, m.ob.).

Forster's Tern – 33 on the Ohio River, upstream from Mt. Vernon Towhead Island, *Henderson*, 18 May (†DSo) was the highest number reported. Last reported 20 May with 4 on the Ohio River, upstream from Mt. Vernon Towhead Island, *Henderson*, (†DSo, DBl, TGr); 1 north of Winchester, *Clark*, (DSv); and 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, (KMi).

Common Loon – 200 at Bailey's Point on Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren*, 31 March (†RSh) was the highest number reported. There were a couple of reports in June but 20 May (m.ob.) was the last of consistent reporting.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT – KBRC review required. Continuing birds at Barkley Dam, *Lyon/Livingston*, were last reported 15 March (†MEa).

American White Pelican – 4 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (BPa, MMo, MSk) were the last reported.

American Bittern – 1 at Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 13 April (ph. BPa) was the first reported. 1 at H Gentry Lake, *Metcalfe*, 7 May (ph. RSh) was the last reported.

Least Bittern – 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 6 May (DSo) was the first reported.

Great Egret – 1 west of Gilbertsville, *Marshall*, 10 March (ph. MMu) was the first reported.

Least Tern – Henderson Co.
21 May 2023, Jeremy Teague

Snowy Egret – First reported at Stuart Nelson Park Nature Trail, *McCracken*, 13 April (MMu).

Little Blue Heron – 1 at Lentz Pond, *Jefferson*, 17 March (ph. †JBa, m.ob.) was a record early report for the species.

TRICOLORED HERON – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird at Fishpond Lake, *Letcher*, 13 May (ph. JHc).

Neotropic Cormorant – Lyon Co.
5 March 2023, Jeremy Teague

Cattle Egret – 1 at the Louisville Landfill, *Jefferson*, 24 March (ph. AAn) was an early sighting for the species with the next report occurring in mid-April.

Green Heron – 1 at Basil Griffin Park, *Warren*, 25 March (ph. JNn) was the first reported.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – 3 at a known nest site in St. Matthews, *Jefferson*, 28 March (JBa) were the first reported.

Glossy Ibis – Henderson Co.
20 April 2023, Rob Rold

GLOSSY IBIS – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 18–22 April (ph. †DSo, m.ob.). There was a flyover *Plegadis* ibis species at this location 14 April (†KMi).

WHITE-FACED IBIS – KBRC review required. There was one report of 5 at Curry Pike Marsh Ponds, *Mercer*, 23 April (ph. †NBr, m.ob.).

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird at Bowling Green, *Warren*, 6 May (†STo).

Golden Eagle – 1 east of Munfordville, *Hart*, 9 April (JSo, CSo) was the last reported.

Mississippi Kite – 1 over Douglass Hills, *Jefferson*, 3 May (MYa) was the first reported.

Broad-winged Hawk – 1 at Fort Thomas, *Campbell*, 1 April (MTi) was the first reported.

Short-eared Owl – 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 30 March (†DTy, STy) was the last reported.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – 1 in central Lexington, *Fayette*, 17 May (†SWn) was the last reported.

Merlin – Late May reports were all from *Jefferson* with a final report 3 June (BPa) near the 2022 nesting territory.

Great Crested Flycatcher – 1 in Wilder, *Campbell*, 10 April (ph. JAn) was the first reported.

Eastern Kingbird – 4 at Wendell Moore Park, *Oldham*, 6 April (ph. †AEn) were the first reported.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher – Reported from the same location as last year's attempted nesting with 1 at Auburn Cemetery, *Logan*, 9 May (†VBr) being the first report.

Olive-sided Flycatcher – 1 in south *Russell* 6 May (†RDe) was the first reported. 1 at Iroquois Park, *Jefferson*, 21 May (ph. SBr, MBr) was the last reported.

Olive-sided Flycatcher – Jefferson Co.
21 May 2023, Steve Brown

Eastern Wood-Pewee – 1 at Iberia Rec. Area, *Grayson*, 21 April (†RDe) was the first reported.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher – 1 in western *Boone* 11 May (JCm, KCi) was the first reported. 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 28 May (au. †BPa) was the last reported.

Acadian Flycatcher – 1 north of New Concord, *Calloway*, 19 April (HCh) was the first reported.

Alder Flycatcher – 2 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (au. †BPa, MMo, MSk) were the first reported. 1 east of Henderson, *Henderson*, 26 May (au. JTe) was the last reported.

Willow Flycatcher – 1 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 29 April (†KBi, KBu, JSp) was the first reported.

Least Flycatcher – 1 at Green River Bluffs Trail, *Edmonson*, 25 April (DSf) was the first reported. 1 in Erlanger, *Kenton*, 30 May (HWr) was the last reported away from known breeding grounds.

White-eyed Vireo – 1 east of Munfordville, *Hart*, 30 March (†JSo) was the first reported. 75+ at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (ph. BPa, MMo, MSk) was a record high number for the state.

Bell's Vireo – 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 30 April (JFa) was the first reported.

Yellow-throated Vireo – First reported on 7 April with single birds at Lake Liberty, *Casey*, (ph. JSo) and Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, (RKe).

Blue-headed Vireo – 1 at Cumberland Gap NHP, *Bell*, 13 March (au. MEr) was the first reported.

Philadelphia Vireo – 1 at Beckley Creek Park, *Jefferson*, 27 April (PBl) was the first reported. 1 southeast of Liberty, *Casey*, 28 May (DBu) was the last reported.

Warbling Vireo – First reported 9 April with 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, (au. STy, DTy) and 2 at KY Dam Village SRP (ph. †MLs, m.ob.).

Red-eyed Vireo – First reported 7 April with 1 at John James Audubon SP, *Henderson*, (DSo) and 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, (RKe). 100+ at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (†BPa, MMo, MSk) was the highest number reported.

Bank Swallow – 100 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 1 May (KMi) was the highest number reported.

Tree Swallow – 1,000 at Lake Peewee, *Hopkins*, 2 April (ph. †CCr) was the highest number reported.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 3 northwest of Paducah, *McCracken*, 17 March (†SRe) were the first reported.

Purple Martin – 1 at Basil Griffin Park, *Warren*, 12 March (SRh) was the first reported.

Barn Swallow – First reported 17 March with 2 at Zib Lane mitigation wetlands, *Jefferson*, (†JBa) and 1 at Wendell Moore Park, *Oldham*, (ph. †AEn).

Cliff Swallow – First reported 26 March with 11 at KY Dam, *Livingston*, (DAn) and 10 at Mayfield, *Graves*, (TMc).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet – Last reported 19 May with 1 south of Melbourne, *Campbell*, (MSo) and 1 at Harrods Creek Park, *Jefferson*, (MMr).

Golden-crowned Kinglet – 1 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 29 April (†KBi) was the last reported.

Red-breasted Nuthatch – 1 at Whitehall Historic Home, *Jefferson*, 17 May (†TBe) was the last reported away from breeding location in Red River Gorge.

Brown-headed Nuthatch – Reported at the known location in London, *Laurel*, (m.ob.) through the season.

Brown Creeper – 2 at a previously known breeding location in *Marshall* 30 April (DSv, ph. JWh, m.ob.) were the last reported.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 1 south of Burnside, *Pulaski*, 25 March (JPh) was the first reported.

House Wren – 1 at University of KY Arboretum, *Fayette*, 4 April (au. NBr, BVe) was the first reported.

Winter Wren – 1 at KY Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Headquarters, *Franklin*, 19 May (GSp) was a late report for the species.

Sedge Wren – 1 at E.P. "Tom" Sawyer SP, *Jefferson*, 23 April (ph. †MCa, m.ob.) was the first reported. 2 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 15 May (au. †BPa) were the last reported.

Marsh Wren – 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 14 April (†KMi) was the first reported. 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 9 May (DSo) was the last reported.

Gray Catbird – 1 in north *Jefferson* 22 March (†KMa) was the first reported.

Veery – 1 at John B. Stephenson SNP, *Rockcastle*, 20 April (RFo) was the first reported. 1 south of La Grange, *Oldham*, 22 May (RFr) was the last reported away from known breeding areas.

Gray-cheeked Thrush – First reported on 22 April with 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, (DBo) and 1 at Red River Gorge, *Wolfe*, (ph. TLm). 2 at John James Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 23 May (JDi, DDi) were the last reported.

Swainson's Thrush – First reported on 19 April with single birds at Kentucky Lake WMA, *Calloway*, (ph. NKl, KHh); Murray, *Calloway*, (†MEa); and Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, (ph. BCa). 50 at Jefferson Memorial Forest, *Jefferson*, 13 May (†BWr) was the highest number reported. 1 south of La Grange, *Oldham*, 31 May (RFr) was the last reported.

Hermit Thrush – 1 at Panther Creek Park, *Daviess*, 13 May (†CKi) was the last reported.

Wood Thrush – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 11 April (†TGr) was the first reported.

American Pipit – Last reported 5 May with 18 at Schochoh, *Logan*, (†DTy, STy) and 2 at Curry Pike Marsh Ponds, *Mercer*, (DPa).

EVENING GROSBEAK – KBRC review required. There were a number of reports. A long staying flock south of White Oak, *Morgan*, was first reported 2 March (RHs) with peak numbers of 31 on 26 March (†PSp) and last reported 9 May (RHs); a single male in Morgantown, *Butler*, 10–11/29 March (ph. †NCa); a flock in *Meade* April 20 (ph. TTu); 1 in Morehead, *Rowan*, 23 April (ph. RPe); and 2 in downtown Lexington, *Fayette*, 15 May (ph. CPo).

Evening Grosbeak – Morgan Co.
26 March 2023, Jeff Sole

Purple Finch – 30 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 28 March (KBt, SKi) was the highest number reported. Last reported mid-May (m.ob.).

Pine Siskin –The low number of reports seen during winter continued into the spring with 1 east of Hodgenville, *Larue*, 23 May (ph. †RMe) being the last reported.

Grasshopper Sparrow – 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 14 April (KMi) was the first reported.

Lark Sparrow – 1 along McDonald Landing Road, *Henderson*, 18 April (ph. CCr) was the first reported.

Fox Sparrow – 1 northeast of Shepherdsville, *Bullitt*, 11 April (KBy) was the last reported.

American Tree Sparrow – 1 in north *Franklin* 27 March (JFy) was the last reported.

Dark-eyed Junco – 2 at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, 22 April (KBi) were the last reported away from known breeding locations.

White-crowned Sparrow – 1 at Pope Lick Park, *Jefferson*, 28 May (ph. AKk) was the last reported.

HARRIS'S SPARROW – KBRC review required. A late report of an overwintering bird returning to a previous location south of Water Valley, *Graves*, was documented 23 April (ph. †BPa) and last reported 25 April (ph. MCo *fide* BPa). This is a recurring location since winter 2018–2019.

White-throated Sparrow – Single birds lingered into late May/early June across north-central parts of the state (m.ob.).

Vesper Sparrow – 1 west of Morehead, *Rowan*, 17 March (ph. NBr) was the first reported. 26 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 28 March (ph. †BPa) was the highest number reported. 2 in east *Fayette*, 7 May (†JWh, DSv) were the last reported.

LeConte's Sparrow – There was one report of a single bird at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 30 March/3–7 April (BPa, †MMo, ph. DBl, m.ob.)

Nelson's Sparrow – There was one report of a single bird at Garvin Brown Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, 13 May (ph. †MAu).

Henslow's Sparrow – 2 at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, 4 April (†SPe) were the first reported.

Lincoln's Sparrow – 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 13 April (†RRo) was the first reported. Last reported 18 May with 1 south of Munfordville, *Hart*, (RSh, NTr) and 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, (ph. †DBl).

Swamp Sparrow – Last reported 15 May with 1 east of Scottsville, *Allen*, (GAl); 1 east of Murray, *Calloway*, (SMk); and 1 at Garvin Brown Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, (AHi).

Yellow-breasted Chat – 1 east of Scottsville, *Allen*, 10 April (au. †GAl) was the first reported. 35 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (BPa, MMo, MSk) was the highest number reported.

Bobolink – 1 in east *Fayette*, 16 April (†DSv) was the first reported. 100 in west *Fulton* 1 May (MGr) was the highest number reported.

Orchard Oriole – 1 at Barbourville, *Knox*, 14 April (EWe) was the first reported.

Baltimore Oriole – First reported 15 April with 1 west of Paducah, *McCracken*, (SRe); 1 east of Scottsville, *Allen*, (GAl); and 1 west of Versailles, *Woodford*, (TLm).

Rusty Blackbird – 1–2 at Cypress Creek, *Marshall*, 30 April (CBe, DTy, ph. STy, ROc) were the last reported.

Brewer's Blackbird – 8 at Mahr Park Arboretum, *Hopkins*, 4 April (†NRo) were the last reported.

Ovenbird – 1 at Alpine Rec. Area DBNF, *Pulaski*, 9 April (RDe) was the first reported.

Worm-eating Warbler – 1 at Crappie Hollow, *Calloway*, 9 April (HCh) was the first reported.

Louisiana Waterthrush – 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 20 March (SGa) was the first reported.

Louisiana Waterthrush – Fayette Co.
9 April 2023, Colin Fisher

Northern Waterthrush – 1 at Jonathan Creek, *Marshall*, 10 April (HCh) was the first reported. 1 at Cypress Creek, *Marshall*, 20 May (HCh) was the last reported.

Golden-winged Warbler – 1 at Stuart Nelson Park Nature Trail, *McCracken*, 13 April (†MMu) was the first reported.

Blue-winged Warbler – 2 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 11 April (KBt, m.ob.) were the first reported.

Blue-winged Warbler – Fayette Co.
16 April 2023, Katey Buster

Black-and-white Warbler – 1 at John James Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 23 March (†JFa) was the first reported.

Prothonotary Warbler – First reported 5 April with 1 at Honker Lake in Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, (JJa) and 1 at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, (ph. †KBi).

Swainson's Warbler – 1 at Paintsville Lake WMA, *Morgan*, 15 April (SFr) was the first reported.

Tennessee Warbler – First reported 15 April with 4 at Lake Barkley State Resort Park, *Trigg*, (†KSm, m.ob.) and 1 in DBNF, *Powell*, (ANn). 100 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (†BPa, MMo, MSk) was the highest number reported. 1 in Elanger, *Kenton*, 31 May (†HWr) was the last reported.

Orange-crowned Warbler – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 21 May (au. †HCh) was the last reported.

Nashville Warbler – First reported on 18 April with 1 at John James Audubon SP, *Henderson*, (JFa) and 1 in Murray, *Calloway*, (ph. NKl). 1 at Douglass Hills, *Jefferson*, 19 May (MYa) was the last reported.

Connecticut Warbler – 1 at Beargrass Creek State Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, 12 May (au. †JJc) was the first reported. 1 in east *Fayette* 30 May (DSv) was the last reported.

Mourning Warbler – 1 at Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 6 May (†BPa) was the first reported. 1 at Central KY Wildlife Refuge, *Boyle*, 26 May (NBr) was the last reported.

Kentucky Warbler – First reported 18 April with 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, (SKi, m.ob.) and 1 in east *Marshall* (MMu). 35+ at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (†BPa, MMo, MSk) was the highest number reported.

Common Yellowthroat – 1 at Green River WMA, *Adair*, 4 April (au. †RDe) was the first reported.

Hooded Warbler – 1 at Kentucky Lake WMA, *Calloway*, 7 April (ph. †LBs, KHh, NKl) was the first reported.

American Redstart – First reported 15 April with 1 in southeast *Ballard*, 15 April (SHn); 1 southwest of London, *Laurel*, (SMo); and 2 at Paintsville Lake WMA, *Morgan*, (SFr).

Cape May Warbler – 1 in west *Fayette* 21 April (†MEr) was the first reported. 1 south of La Grange, *Oldham*, 22 May (RFr) was the last reported.

Cerulean Warbler – 1 southeast of Greensburg, *Green*, 12 April (JSo) was the first reported.

Northern Parula – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 31 March (JTe) was the first reported. 75 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (†BPa, MMo, MSk) was a new record high number for the state.

Magnolia Warbler – 1 west of Cadiz, *Trigg*, 28 April (CCu) was the first reported. 1 at Clarks River NWR, *Marshall*, 1 June (ph. ba. HCh, m.ob.) was the last reported.

Bay-breasted Warbler – 1 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 24 April (JSp) was the first reported. 1 at Raven Run Nature Sanctuary, *Fayette*, 26 May (†SPe) was the last reported.

Blackburnian Warbler – 1 at E.P. "Tom" Sawyer SP, *Jefferson*, 20 April (PPi) was the first reported. 1 at Central Park & Arboretum, *Boone*, 29 May (†BKi) was the last reported.

Yellow Warbler – 1 at Lexington Reservoirs #2 & #3, *Fayette*, 9 April (JSp) was the first reported.

Chestnut-sided Warbler – 1 in north *Franklin*, 27 April (JBn) was the first reported. 1 east of Masonville, *Daviess*, 24 May (CRr) was the last reported.

Blackpoll Warbler – 1 in Calvert City, *Marshall*, 21 April (JTe) was the first reported. 40 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (†BPa, MMo, MSk) was the highest number reported. Last reported 29 May with 1 southeast of Frenchburg, *Menifee*, 29 May (LEa) and 1 at Lexington Reservoirs #2 & #3, *Fayette*, (au. DSe).

Black-throated Blue Warbler – 1 at Veterans Park, *Fayette*, 30 April (SPe) was the first reported. 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 3 June (†BAb) was the last report away from known breeding grounds.

Palm Warbler – 1 in central Louisville, *Jefferson*, 21 May (†JDe, SFa) was the last reported.

Yellow-rumped Warbler – 1 at Lost River Cave, *Warren*, 20 May (†SRh) was the last reported.

Yellow-throated Warbler – First reported 26 March with 2 at Owsley Fork Reservoir, *Madison*, (RBa, RFo) and 1 east of Draffenville, *Marshall*, (JPo).

Prairie Warbler – First reported 9 April with 1 north of Beattyville, *Lee*, (APi) and 1 at Turkey Run Park, *Jefferson*, (ph. SBr, MBr).

Black-throated Green Warbler – 1 at Cumberland Gap NHP, *Bell*, 26 March (AFd) was the first reported.

Canada Warbler – First reported 7 May with 1 in Red River Gorge, *Powell*, (PLi, ALi); 1 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, (JSp, KBu); and 1 at Lakeview Park, *Fayette*, (EGy, m.ob.). 1 east of Hodgenville, *Larue*, 31 May (†RMe) was the last reported.

Wilson's Warbler – First reported 4 May with 1 northeast of Frenchburg, *Menifee*, (MMs) and 1 at Lake Shelby, *Shelby*, (LPa).

Summer Tanager – 1 in central Lexington, *Fayette*, 6 April (ph. †MFn) was the first reported. 50 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (ph. †BPa, MMo, MSk) was a new record high for the state.

Scarlet Tanager – First reported 13 April with 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, (SKi, m.ob.) and 1 at Floracliff Nature Sanctuary, *Fayette*, (DPa). 25 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 7 May (BPa, MMo, MSk) was the highest number reported.

WESTERN TANAGER – KBRC review required. The continuing bird in the St. Regis Park area of Louisville, *Jefferson*, was last reported 1 April (RSv *fide* BPa).

Western Tanager – Jefferson Co.
25 March 2023, Dale Black

Rose-breasted Grosbeak – 2 northwest of London, *Laurel*, 30 March (AKa) were the first reported.

Blue Grosbeak – 1 southwest of Paducah, *McCracken*, 10 April (ph. au. †BHh) was the first reported.

Indigo Bunting – 1 at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, 5 April (†KBi) was the first reported.

Dickcissel – 1 at Sauerheber, *Henderson*, 20 April (RRo) was the first reported.

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eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD_relJun-2023. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Jun 2023.

Palmer-Ball, Jr., B. Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky, Third Edition. The Kentucky Ornithological Society, 2019.

Wulker, B. 2022. 20th Report of the Kentucky Bird Records Committee. The Kentucky Warbler 98: 111–131.

LOCATIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS (*Italics* indicate a county name)

Most locations are based on their eBird Hotspot Name

Crappie Hollow = Upper reaches of Blood River Embayment of Kentucky Lake

Jonathan Creek = Jonathan Creek Embayment of Kentucky Lake

NHP = National Historic Park

NWR = National Wildlife Refuge

Sauerheber = Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit

SRP = State Resort Park

WMA = Wildlife Management Area

KEY TO OBSERVER CODES

AAn – Anonymous
AEn – Anne Ensign
AFd – Ann Freund
AHi – Asher Higgins
AKa – Albert Kayser
AKk – Andrea Clotz Kilpatrick
AKo – Alex Kochersperger
ALi – Alexander Linton
ANn – Audry Nicklin
AOw – Ashley Owens
APi – Amy Pickering
APy – Anna Perry
BAb – Billy Abbot
BCa – Beverly Carrico
BHh – Bob Haugh
BKi – Bryan King
BLe – Ben Leffew
BMe – Bob Meier
BPa – Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.
BUe – Bradley Uebelhor
BVe – Barbara Vellios
BWr – Barbara Woerner
BWt – Blaire Whittier
CBe – Carol Besse
CCr – Charles Crawford
CCs – Carol Challas
CCu – Chris Curl
CKi – Conrad Kimball
CLe – Chris Leftwich
CPo – Chris Poore
CRr – Catherine Rogier
CSo – Carol Sole
CWh – Cooper Whaley
DAn – Dorian Anderson
DBk – Dale Black
DBl – David Bailey
DBo – Dale Bonk
DBu – David Burleson
DCr – Dustin Crowell
DDi – Dean Diehl
DHs – Derek Hudgins
DPa – Daniel Patrick
DPu – Debra Puckett
DRo – David Roemer
DSe – Dan Stone
DSf – David Swift
DSk – Donna Stricklin
DSo – David Stone
DSv – David J Svetich
DTy – Debby Tyson
EBy – Eddie Bartley
EDo – Ezekiel Dobson
EGy – Emma Gregory
EWe – Ethan Wells
FFa – Fred Fahmy
GAl – Gwen Alston
GSp – Gary Sprandel
HCh – Hap Chambers
HWr – Helen Wright-North
JAn – Jerry Anthony
JBa – Jamie Baker
JBn – Joyce Bender
JCm – Joe Caminiti
JDe – Jen DeLeeuw
JDi – Judy Diehl
JFa – Julia Farmer
JFu – Jason Fuller
JFy – Joyce Fry
JHa – Joseph Hall
JHc – Jennifer Honeycutt
JJa – Jacob Johnston
JJc – Jessica Jacobs
JNn – Jodi Nielson
JPh – Jeremy Proeschel
JPo – Josh Powell

KEY TO OBSERVER CODES

JSo – Jeff Sole
JSp – Josh Stapleton
JTe – Jeremy Teague
JWh – James Wheat
KBi – Kyle Bixler
KBk – Katie Burke
KBt – Kevin Burt
KBy – Karen Byers
KCi – Kathy Caminiti
KFl – Kevin Flowers
KHh – Kara Hollansworth
KLa – Kent LaGrange
KMa – Katie Maddox
KMi – Keith Michalski
KSm – Karen Smith
LBs – Laura Sullivan Beckers
LCo – Lisa Combs
LCr – Linda Craiger
LEa – Larry Early
LPa – Lee Payne
MAu – Michael Autin
MBr – Meg Brown
MCa – Michael Callan
MCo – Marta Coleman
MEr – Mark Ernstes
MFn – Mark Farman
MGr – Mark Greene
MLs – Matt Lewis
MMo – Mark Monroe
MMr – Madison Mares
MMs – Matt Mason
MMu – Mike Muller
MSo – Matthew Stephenson
MSk – Matt Stickel
MTi – Mark Tobalski
MYa – Mary Yandell
NBr – Nancy Braun
NCa – Nancy Cardwell
NKl – Niklas Klauss
NRo – Nikki Rothwell
NTr – Neil Troyer
PBl – Pat Bell
PLi – Paul Linton
PPi – Patrice Pittman
PSp – Pam Spaulding
RBa – Rebecca Bates
RCd – Richard Clendenen
RDe – Roseanna Denton
RFo – Robert Foster
RFr – Richard A Fischer Sr.
RGr – Rex Graham
RHs – Roger Hicks
RKe – Richard Kessler
RMe – Rosemary Meredith
ROc – Ronan O'Carra
RPe – Randy Perry
RRo – Robert Rold
RSh – Rickey Shive
RSv – Rick Sullivan
SBr – Steve Brown
SBs – Sandy Briggs
SDa – Sarajane Damin
SEn – Samantha Engstrom
SFa – Salena Filichia
SFr – Scott Freidhof
SGa – Sam Gao
SHn – Stacey Hayden
SKi – Steve Kistler
SMo – Sandra Moss
SPe – Sydney Penner
SRe – Scott Record
SRh – Sasha Rohde
STo – Sandy Townsend
STy – Steve Tyson
SWa – Sean Ward
SWn – Steve Wilson
TBe – Tommy Becker
TBy – Terri Lewis Bryant
TCz – Thomas Czubek
TGr – Teresa Graham
TLm – Todd Leatherman
TLn – Tom Lonergan
TMc – TJ McGary
TTh – Tiffany Thomas
TTu – Trish Turner
TYo – Travis Young
VBr – Valerie Brown
WRa – Ward Ransdell

Connecticut Warbler – Jefferson Co.
13 May 2023, Jamie Baker

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (KOS) SPRING 2023 MEETING
KENTUCKY DAM VILLAGE STATE RESORT PARK, APRIL 28-30, 2023

Participants who arrived early for the Spring KOS Meeting were eager to start birding. They took part in field trips on Friday afternoon. Nancy Braun and Donna Stricklin took their group to Cypress Creek and some other spots around the SRP. Steve and Meg Brown took some birders to the Land Between the Lakes (LBL) Scenic Loop.

The official meeting started at 7:10 at the Conference Center at the park when James Wheat, KOS President called the meeting to order. He reviewed the trip reports on eBird, which showed 95 species already reported.

He displayed the proposed bylaws changes and provided info on how to access them online for more careful review. The changes are not substantive; they are proposed to make the document more up-todate with current technology and consistent in language throughout. Members will vote on the changes at Saturday evening's meeting after reviewing them. (See changes on a separate document.)

Donna Stricklin (KOS VP) welcomed members to the meeting and introduced Steve Kistler and his bird quiz. As usual, he stumped a lot of folks, but it was fun.

Next on the agenda was Macey Weaver, a high school student who had attended Camp Colorado last year with a Kingsolver grant. She shared photos and discussed her life-changing experience at the camp. She gave details about their schedule, the staff, her fellow campers, and of course, all the great birds they saw – 143 species in one week of camp. She especially enjoyed journaling, the focus on geology, and the bird-banding demonstration by Scott Rashid. The camp helped participants appreciate all of nature, not just birds. Because of her experience at camp, she is applying to college in that area.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – Marshall Co. 29 April 2023, Tommy Quarles

Joyce Bender gave the next presentation about Josephine Sculpture Park, which has received two Anne Stamm Grants. The park's primary goal is to connect people with each other and the land through art. The park is located right outside Frankfort – 30 acres of restored meadows and trees. They have an active invasive removal program and strive to improve accessibility for their 25,000 visitors each year. The grants were used for the Arts in Nature Camp for youth and Conservation 4 Outreach Internship program. These programs work together to provide place-based learning, allowing students to create while learning. They have used KOS grant funds to achieve some remarkable results connecting kids with nature.

Field trips for Saturday were announced:

Morning trips start at 7:30

- Jeremy Teague will lead a group in the Kentucky Dam Village SRP area and to Cypress Creek
- Donna Stricklin and Beverly Carrico will go to the Land-Between-the-Lakes (LBL) Scenic Loop
- Hap Chambers and Josh Powell with go to the Clarks River Refuge EERA
- Brainard Palmer-Ball will lead a group to various places at LBL

Afternoon trips start at 1:30

- Steve and Janet Kistler will lead a nature walk at LBL Honker Lake Dam/Trail
- James Wheat will lead a group at the LBL Nature Station and Hematite Lake area
- Steve Tyson will conduct a digiscoping workshop at the conference center

Jeremy Teague offered to take folks on a night trip to LBL to search for night jars and owls right after the meeting. About 40 people took him up on his offer.

Saturday evening's program started with consideration of the bylaws changes. There were no questions, so Joyce Fry moved to accept the proposed changes to the KOS bylaws. Blaine Ferrell seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

James and Jeremy went through the weekend bird checklist, with participation by attendees. So far, there were 154 species with Golden-crowned Kinglets and Lesser Black-backed Gulls being the rarities.

James introduced the Keynote Speaker, Michael Johnson, the Refuge Manager of Clarks River and Green River National Wildlife Refuges. He is a 30-year veteran with the Fish and Wildlife Service and was recognized as the NWR Manager of the Year in 2022. He gave a history of the two refuges and described some of their features and the challenges they face. He spoke of the plans to acquire new land around the rivers in the acquisition areas. His work included widening the acquisition corridor and adding another fork at Clarks River.

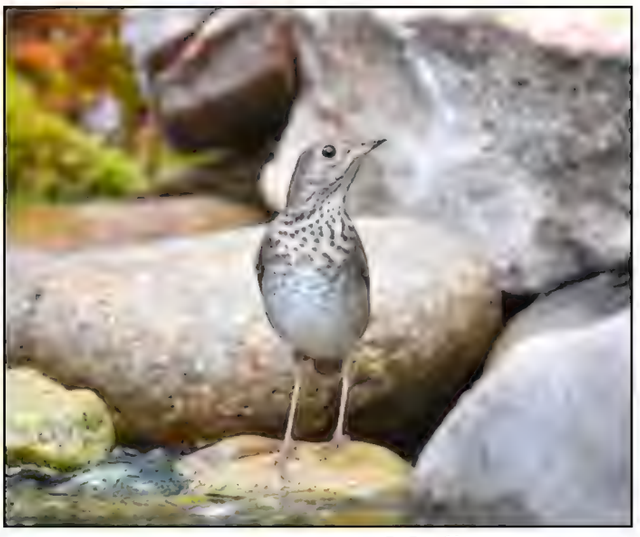
The Priorities for the refuges include providing habitat for migrating waterfowl and birds, forest management, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing and photography. They face many challenges such as staffing/field staff, consistency of funding, maintaining support, and competing land use interests.

He had some exciting news to share – The Migratory Bird Commission recently approved $18 million in funding to acquire 2,000 acres at Clarks River NWR and 1,300 acres at Green River NWR. Michael was thankful to have good support from the Green River community and from the Clarks River Friends group.

He introduced some people from his staff. Stacy Hayden is a bird bander (trained by Hap Chambers) and environmental education specialist. She gave an overview of the bird banding program at Clarks River, which is used for research, environmental ed, and management decisions. She regularly does programs for school children in the area.

Kimberly Sykes is a specialist in bottomland hardwood forest ecology. She described some of the challenges facing their efforts to improve and maintain the ecosystem.

A representative of the Clarks River Friends group, Mike Morton provided some information about their efforts to support the refuge. They have raised about $500,000 in their 20 years of existence, in addition to their other volunteer efforts. They encouraged others to get involved and volunteer.



Gray-cheeked Thrush – Madison Co.
29 April 2023, Robert Foster

After the presentation, Sunday's field trips were announced:

- Jeff Sole, start at 7:30, trip to Mantle Rock Nature Preserve in Livingston County
- Win Ahrens, starting at 8:00, LBL Scenic Loop
- Hap Chambers and Josh Powell, meet at 8:00 for a trip to the Clarks River NWR to try for the Swainson's Warbler and another portion of the refuge (grassland) for Henslow's Sparrow

James concluded the meeting with one more announcement – KOS was established 100 years ago. Plans are underway for a centenary celebration at the fall meeting which will be held at Henderson/Audubon State Park, September 15-17. We hope to see everyone there!

The meeting was adjourned and attendees enjoyed fellowship and cookies.

KOS Attendees, Spring Meeting, 2023 (alphabetical)

Last	First	Town	Guest
Ahrens	Win	Prospect, KY	
Avery	Bonnie	Upton, KY	
Avery	Sam	Upton, KY	
Bell	Jane	Louisville, KY	
Bell	Pat	Louisville, KY	
Bell	Sarah, Bo, & Wilder	Elizabethtown, KY	
Bender	Joyce	Frankfort, KY	
Besse	Carol	Louisville, KY	
Bochmann	JoAnn	Fallston, MD	
Brand	Denny	Austin, KY	

KOS Attendees, Spring Meeting, 2023 (alphabetical) (continued)

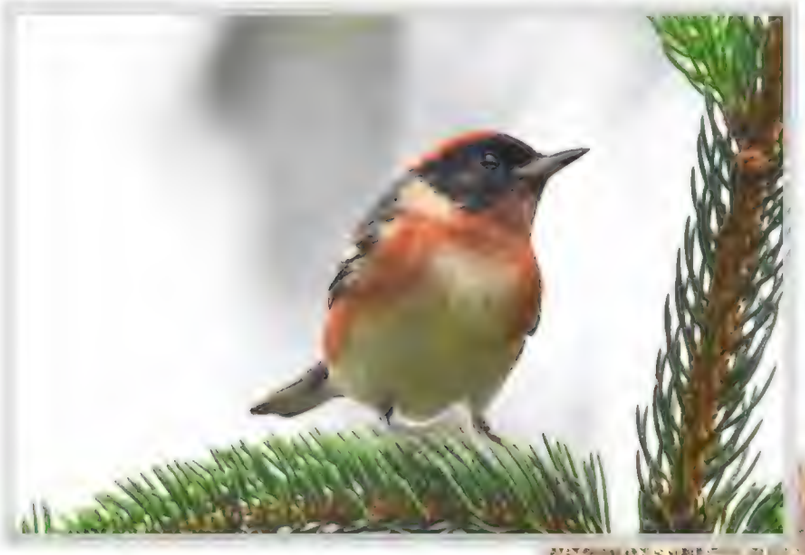
Last	First	Town	Guest
Brand	Barbara	Austin, KY	
Braun	Nancy	Lexington, KY	
Brown	Valerie	Bowling Green, KY	
Brown	Meg	Louisville, KY	
Brown	Steve	Louisville, KY	
Burt	Wendy	Columbia, KY	
Callan	Michael	Louisville, KY	
Caminiti	Joe	Burlington, KY	
Caminiti	Kathy	Burlington, KY	
Carlisle	Mary Beth	Bowling Green, KY	
Carrico	Beverly	Madisonville, KY	
Chambers	Hap	Murray, KY	
Combs	Lisa	Lexington, KY	
Craiger	Linda	Glasgow, KY	
Curl	Mary Chris	Louisville, KY	
Dalporto	Lisa	Bowling Green, KY	
Denton	Roseanna	Science Hill, KY	
Dudko	Jonathan	Owensboro, KY	
Durbin	Tom	Bowling Green, KY	
Easley	Melissa	Murray, KY	
Elkins	Mark	Finchville, KY	
Elkins	Rebecca	Finchville, KY	
Ferrell	Blaine	Bowling Green, KY	
Forman	John	Bowling Green, KY	
Fry	Joyce	Frankfort, KY	
Gabbard	Lisa	Frankfort, KY	
Graham	Steve	Greenville, KY	
Graham	Teresa	Greenville, KY	
Hayden	Stacy	Paducah, KY	guest

KOS Attendees, Spring Meeting, 2023 (alphabetical) (continued)

Last	First	Town	Guest
Johnson	Michael	Smithland, KY	guest
Kistler	Janet	Munfordville, KY	
Kistler	Steve	Munfordville, KY	
Kuehn	Ken	Bowling Green, KY	
Lang	David	Georgetown, KY	
Lockard	Jenny	Benton, KY	
Lockard	Martin	Benton, KY	
McGary	Thana	Mayfield, KY	
Morris	Shelly	Gilbertsville, KY	
Morton	Connie	Robards, KY	guest
Morton	Mike	Robards, KY	guest
O'Carra	Ronan	Lexington, KY	
Olson	Cheryl	Columbia, KY	
Palmer-Ball	Brainard, Jr	Louisville, KY	
Powell	Josh & Liza	Benton, KY	
Quarles	Tommy	Frankfort, KY	
Sellars	Kathy	Dyersburg, TN	
Smith	Tammie	Calvert City, KY	
Smith	Karen	Paducah, KY	
Sole	Carol	Stanford, KY	
Sole	Jeff	Stanford, KY	
Spaulding	Pam	Louisville, KY	
Stone	Dan	Lexington, KY	
Stricklin	Donna	Madisonville, KY	
Svetich	David	Lexington, KY	
Sykes	Kimberly	Benton, KY	guest
Teague	Jeremy	Calvert City, KY	
Tyson	Debby	Adairville, KY	
Tyson	Steve	Adairville, KY	

KOS Attendees, Spring Meeting, 2023 (alphabetical) (continued)

Last	First	Town	Guest
Vellios	Barbara	Lexington, KY	
Weaver	Macey	Kuttawa, KY	
Wheat	James	Taylorsville, KY	
Wright	Elizabeth	New Albany, IN	



Bay-breasted Warbler – Madison Co.
9 May 2023, Robert Foster

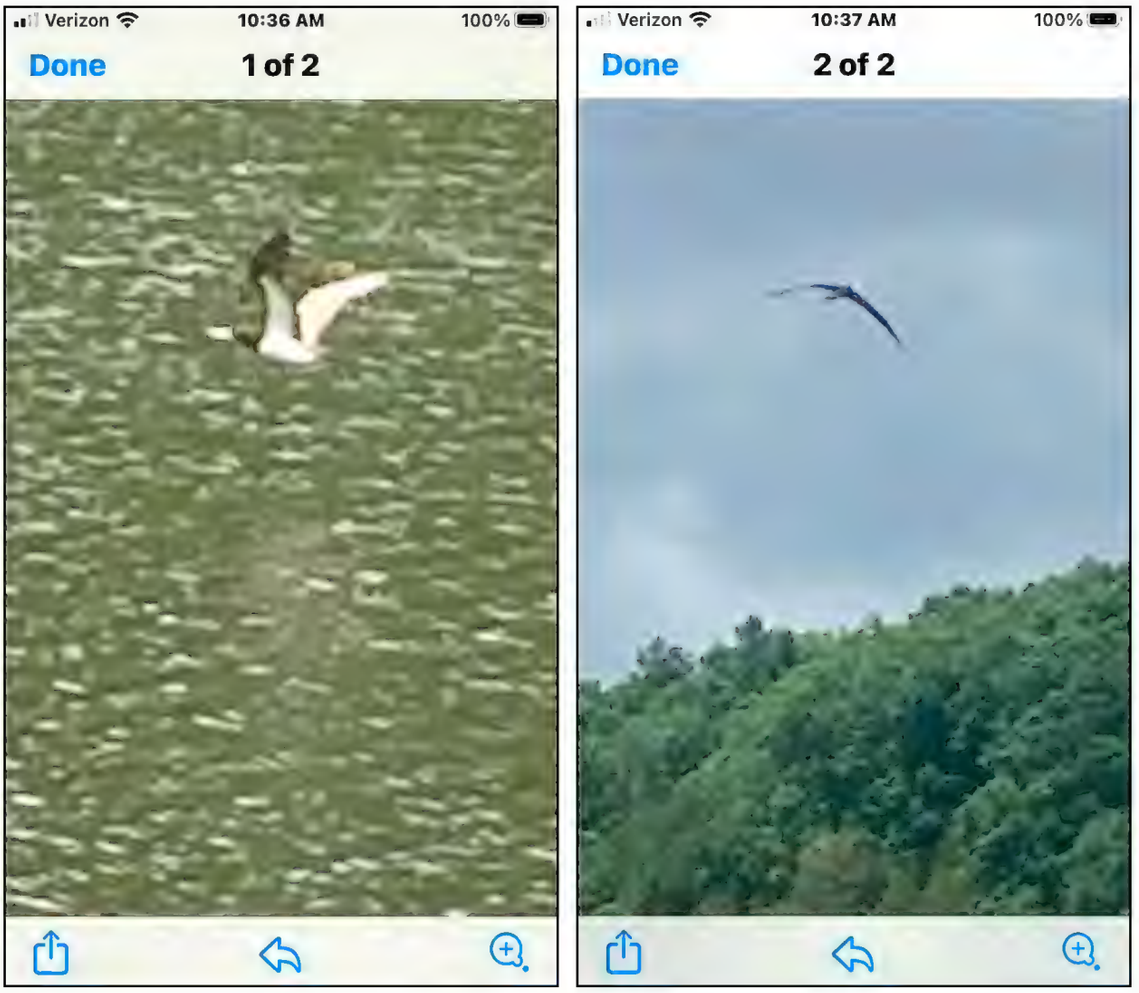
Cinnamon Teal – Henderson Co.
28 March 2023, Charlie Crawford

Common Tern – Pulaski Co.
7 May 2023, Roseanna Denton

FIRST KENTUCKY RECORD OF BROWN BOOBY (*Sula leucogaster*)

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*) is a seabird of open ocean, archipelagos, and coastal areas that occurs in tropical and subtropical regions around the world. There are at least four recognized subspecies that all typically breed on oceanic islands (Schreiber and Norton 2020). Over the course of about the past ten years, there has been a remarkable increase in the number of vagrant birds occurring north of the species' traditional range in North America, including ones found far inland on freshwater lakes and rivers. These inland observations have not been associated with the passage of the remnants of tropical cyclones, but appear to be random and independent of such events. Moreover, the reason for this pattern of vagrancy for a bird of coastlines and open oceans is unknown, but it has resulted in records of the species well away from coastlines in nearly two dozen eastern states and Canadian provinces (eBird 2023).

For several years, reports of Brown Booby have been slowly accumulating in states surrounding Kentucky, especially in Tennessee. Finally, during late May 2022, the state joined others nearby in hosting one of these rare visitors. On 27 May 2022, Michelle Johnson noted and photographed an odd waterbird flying over Lake Malone, Logan County. Being unsure of its identity, she sent the photograph to her aunt, KOS member Linda Craiger. Linda was also unsure of the bird's identity so she shared it with David Roemer, who recognized the bird as a Brown Booby. Later that day, David and Rickey Shive visited the location on Lake Malone where the bird had been seen, and they were able to confirm that it was still there and was, in fact, an adult Brown Booby.



Brown Booby – Logan Co.
27 May 2022, Michelle Johnson

The booby's body was overall dark brown with a well-defined white lower breast and belly. The wings and a relatively long, pointed tail were also dark brown, although most of the underwing coverts were white. The legs and webbed feet were pale yellow. The pale, flesh-colored bill was typical for a sulid, with a stout base tapering gradually to a long point. The gular area was pale yellow and the eyes were a vivid pale blue. During subsequent days, many birders were able to visit the lake and view the bird, which was quite tame. The booby was typically perched on a large sandstone boulder partially submerged along the edge of the lake approximately 0.3 mi southwest of the KY 1785 bridge, although it was occasionally seen flying around in the immediate area. It was observed diving for fish on several occasions.

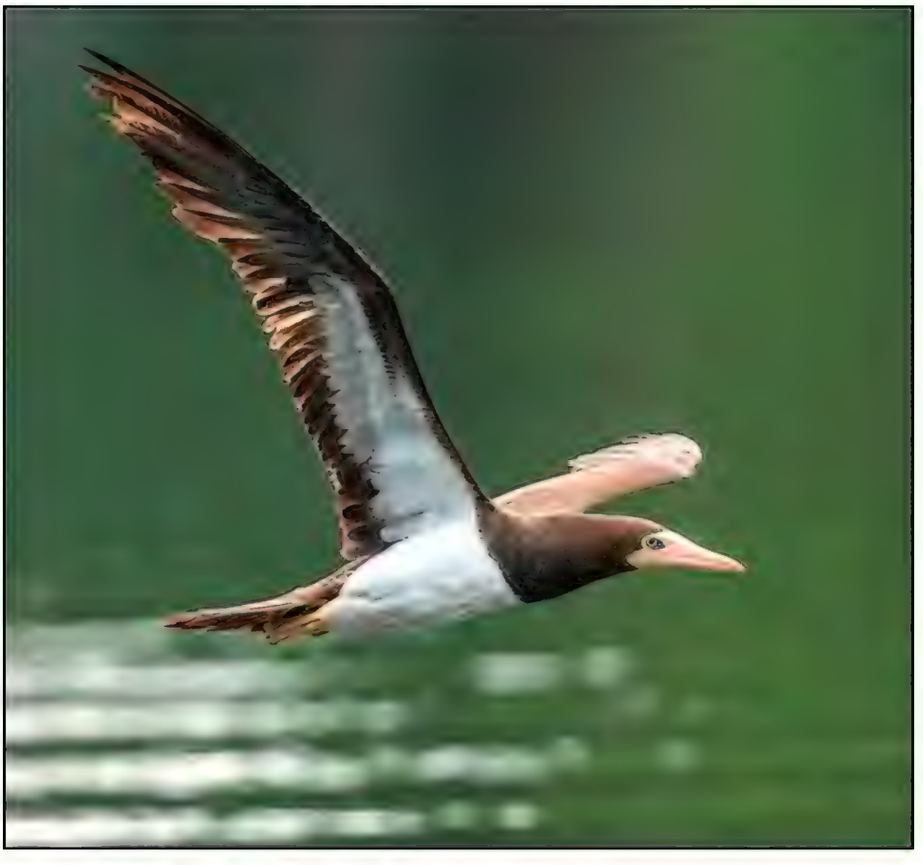
This special visitor remained in the area for several days and was last reported 30 May 2022. The birding community wishes to thank Jeremy Crandall, former owner of the Shady Cliff Resort, for allowing access to this portion of Lake Malone to view the bird.

Cited Sources

eBird Basic Dataset. Version EBD_relJun-2023. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Jun 2023.

Schreiber, E. A. and R. L. Norton (2020). Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*), version 1.0. In Birds of the World (S. M. Billerman, Editor). Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY, USA. https://doi.org/10.2173/bow.brnboo.01

— Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (brainard@mindspring.com)



Brown Booby – Logan Co.
28 May 2022, Pam Spaulding

◆◆◆◆◆

NEWS AND VIEWS

Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia "Ginny" Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to KOS and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to birders between the ages of 13 and 18 who live in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition and travel to attend an American Birding Association (ABA) Summer Camp. Details about the ABA camps can be found on the ABA website.

To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundvwkingsolver.php); write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend; and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Applications should be sent to Carol Besse (csbesse@bellsouth.net). Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to KOS at a meeting, or in writing. Scholarship applications are due by May 1 each year, however grants will be subject to ABA camp's space availability.

Gordon Wilson Fund Grants Available

The Gordon Wilson Fund was established in honor of Dr. Gordon Wilson, respected Kentucky ornithologist and one of the three founders of KOS. Grants of up to $5,000 may be requested to fund research, publication costs, and environmental education projects. Members of the Society will receive preference for funding, but others are encouraged to apply. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundgordonwilson.php) or contact Jeremy Teague by mail at 379 Sir Charles Court, Calvert City, KY, 42029-7519, or via email at jeremy.teague@birdky.org.

Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports the education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to $5000, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundannestamm.php) or contact David Bailey by mail at Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund, 706 Dorsey Way, Louisville, KY 40223 , or via email at david.bailey@birdky.org.

Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Grants Available

The Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Fund supports research on birds in Kentucky with monetary awards of up to $5000. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundburtmonroejr.php) or contact Kate Slankard, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601 (kate.slankard@ky.gov).

Recipients of KOS grants are expected to submit research articles or summary reports, which will be published in future issues of *The Kentucky Warbler*.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky (3rd ed.) now available.

By Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

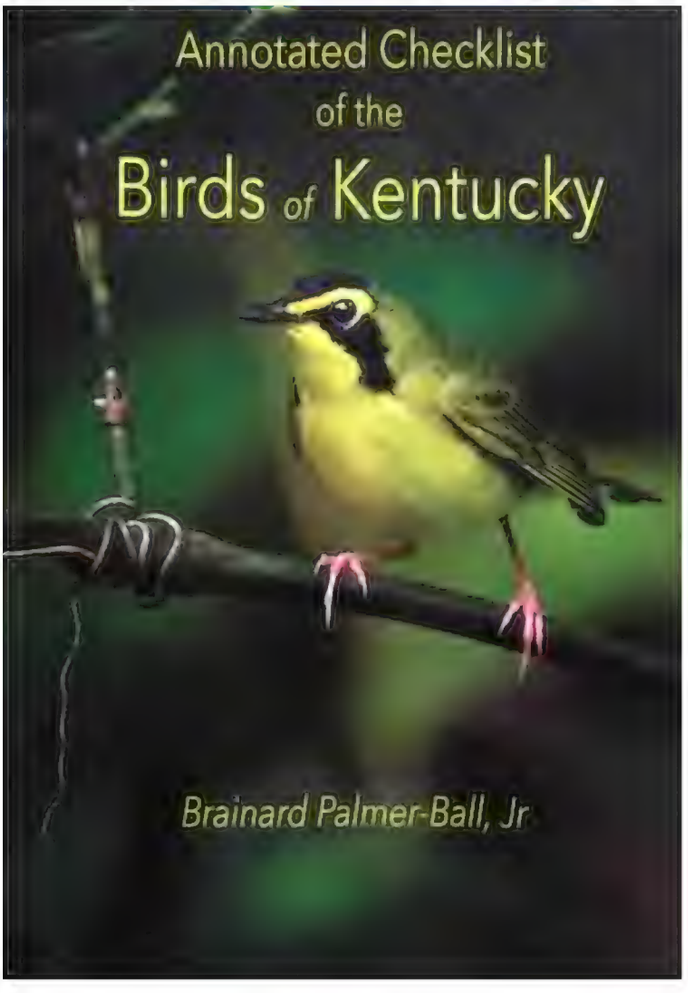
Kentucky Ornithological Society

Paperback 276 pages. 1 August 2019.

"The 3rd edition of the *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky* updates the status and abundance of 390 species that have been documented to have occurred in Kentucky. The 3rd edition has been expanded to include more detailed lists of county distribution of many less common species. Included in species descriptions are brief summaries of status, distribution, seasonal occurrence, and abundance."

– Kentucky Ornithological Society website.

This important reference is available at meetings of the society, through the online bookseller Bookshop.org at https://bookshop.org/shop/kos, and wherever books are sold (see Birdky.org for more details).



Tricolored Heron – Letcher Co.
13 May 2023, Jennifer Honeycutt

Ovenbird – Fayette Co.
22 April 2023, Steve Wilson

Philadelphia Vireo – Metcalfe Co.
14 May 2023, Rickey Shive

Brown-headed Nuthatch
Laurel Co.
25 May 2023, Eric Nally

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The Kentucky Warbler

Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society

Vol. 99 **NOVEMBER 2023** **No. 4**

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR 91

THE SUMMER SEASON, JUNE – JULY 2023
Ronan O'Carra 92

KOS ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING, SEPTEMBER 15–17, 2023
Janet Kistler 99

FIRST RECORD OF LIMPKIN (*Aramus guarauna*) IN KENTUCKY
Ronan O'Carra 104

NEWS AND VIEWS 106

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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The content of this page reflects the society's standing at the time of publication.

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The Kentucky Warbler

The Kentucky Warbler is the journal of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. It is published quarterly in February, May, August and November, and is sent to current members. Membership dues are: Individual $25.00; Individual Contributing $35.00; Family $30.00; Family Contributing $40.00; Life $500.00 and Student $10.00. Send articles, field notes and other communications relevant to *The Kentucky Warbler* to the Editor. Send membership dues to the Treasurer. Requests for back issues should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary.

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THE COVER

We thank Christine Hayden for her photograph of the Scissor-tailed Flycatchers (*Tyrannus forficatus*) taken 2 July 2023 in Logan County.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Birders,

As always when we come to the summer seasonal report we see a lull in birding following the highs of spring migration. One way to encourage oneself to bird more is to set targets in your birding. Summer should be looked at as a time for finding and recording as many breeding species as possible in one's county or across the state. It's one thing to see a bird and report it, it's another to gain insight into whether the birds are breeding in one's county. It can be as easy as having American Robins physically nesting at your house to seeing Henslow's Sparrows carrying food. In eBird one can also note whether the birds are singing on territory (one doesn't use this on migrants passing through the area), displaying, carrying nest material, feeding young, etc. These breeding codes can be noted under each species. This data would allow us to map out at a county level where birds are breeding and allow us to publish those maps. If you're interested in learning more about using breeding codes in eBird, here is a link to that article in the Help section: https://support.ebird.org/en/support/solutions/articles/48000837520-ebird-breeding-and-behavior-codes.

This issue includes a note on the remarkable reports of Limpkin through the state from its first-in-state report through all of 2023. It will be interesting to see survival rates and whether the next year will follow a similar pattern. Future issues will report on another remarkable first-in-state bird seen in 2023, namely the American Flamingo.

Good Birding,

Ronan O'Carra

HISTORY OF THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY – VI

Our members are devoted to the preservation of bird habitat in our state, but our contribution is more in the way of identifying what is there, including important nesting and migratory stop-over territory, and leaving it to organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, The Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission, and others to purchase and preserve this land. However, we have consistently supported environmental causes by letters and contact with state and federal policy makers.

KOS is a healthy organization, with many energetic and very knowledgeable birders as members. We are fortunate indeed to have members of all ages and levels of experience in KOS, all bound by a common desire to enhance our knowledge of birds in Kentucky. The fun that we have birding together is a joyous byproduct of belonging. KOS has always had an excellent mix of professional ornithologists and amateurs. The trained eyes of all of us throughout the state provide invaluable observations of and information about the birds of Kentucky.

An excerpt from the KOS website. Read more at www.birdky.org/koshistory.php

THE SUMMER SEASON, JUNE – JULY 2023

Ronan O'Carra

Climatic conditions during the summer season were below average temperature-wise but precipitation was variable with heavy downpours amongst dry spells. Temperatures were below average for June [-0.9F (West), -2.0F (Central), -1.8F (Bluegrass), -2.8F (East)] and about average for July [-0.3F (West), +0.3F (Central), +1.5F (Bluegrass), +0.6F (East)]. Precipitation varied over the season. June continued the dry period from the end of the spring season with the excess rainfall in the Bluegrass region coming on the last day of the month [-3.4in (West), -1.9in (Central), +1.8in (Bluegrass), -1.6in (East)]. Rainfall was about average for most regions in July [+6.3in (West), +0.8in (Central), +0.2in (Bluegrass), +0.8in (East)] with a western rain event in the middle of the month accounting for 70% of that region's precipitation.

Sightings are extracted mainly from eBird with supplementary records from the BirdKy LISTSERV and social media. Comments about previous Kentucky bird records rely on the *Annotated Checklist* (Palmer-Ball, Jr., 2019). The species order is based on the Kentucky State List of Birds (Wulker, 2022), with review species being capitalized and state firsts underlined. Reports of note included multiple reports of Limpkin, Anhinga, Roseate Spoonbill, and a Swallow-tailed Kite.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

Abbreviations – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the "/" symbol is used in place of "and"; "ba." next to an observer's initials indicates that the bird was banded; "ph." next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s) or video; "au." next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with an audio recording; "†" next to an observer's initials indicates that written details about identification or number were submitted with the report; "m.ob." within observer initials indicates that there were multiple observers. "pers. comm." after an observer's initials indicate that the report was personally communicated with the editor. "*fide*" indicates that it was communicated to the subsequent reporter. Location information and observer codes are listed after the report.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck – There was one report of up to 5 east of Geneva, *Henderson*, first reported 4 June (ph. CCr) and remaining in the area into the fall (m.ob.).

Blue-winged Teal – A number of lingering birds were reported around *Jefferson* (m.ob.) and Jessamine (RGr) into mid-June, as well as a late report northwest of Glasgow, *Barren*, 2 July (ph. RSh).

American Wigeon – 1 in southwest *Jessamine* 9 June (†DPa) was the last reported.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck – Henderson Co. 24 July 2023, Asher Higgins

Ring-necked Duck – There were two reports with 1 in the area of Uniontown-Mt. Vernon Road, *Union*, 4–5 June (ph. CCr) and 1 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 12 July (ph. †SRe).

Lesser Scaup – Up to 3, likely injured birds, at KY Dam, *Marshall*, lingered throughout the summer, otherwise 18 on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 18 June (†BPa) was the most noteworthy report.

Common Goldeneye – 1 at KY Dam, *Marshall*, 18 June (BPa) was a bird that lingered during the summer.

Common Merganser – Adults with young were noted on Cave Run Lake, *Menifee*, 29 June (ph. †JBr); on Buckhorn Creek, *Breathitt*, 8 June (RVh); Grayson Lake tailwaters, *Carter*, mid-July (ph. BTo); and Pool 8 of the Kentucky River, *Jessamine*, 29 July (ph. CHs).

Pied-billed Grebe – 1 at Barren River Lake SRP, *Barren*, 21 July (†LCr) was the first reported.

White-winged Dove – Last reported from the usual location in downtown Lexington, *Fayette*, 7 June (†JSo). A second bird was reported in north *Jessamine* near Lexington 7 July (†JSp). There was one other report of 1 in Paducah, *McCracken*, last week of July (ph. DPu).

Black-billed Cuckoo – There were only two reports with 1 southwest of Annville, *Jackson*, during the first week of July (†SWr) and 1 in north *Fayette* 20 July (†CWn).

LIMPKIN – KBRC review required. The state has seen an exceptional expansion of sightings for this species. 1 on the Green River, *Green*, Jun 10 (ph. †KMc); 1 continued at Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 19 June (ph. †BPa) and remained through the season (m.ob.) with a second bird reported 28 July (ph. †SRe); 1 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, first reported 2 July (ph. KCy, m.ob.) and has resided there since; 1 in north *Bullitt* July 23 (ph. JFu); 1 at the Dix River tailwaters, *Mercer*, 23 July (ph. SMl); and 1 near High Bridge, *Jessamine*, 31 July (ph. EBr).

Black-bellied Plover – 2 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 9 June (ph. CCr) were the last spring migrants reported.

Semipalmated Plover – 9 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 5 June (ph. CCr) were the last spring migrants reported.

Upland Sandpiper – There was one report of a single bird at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 15 July (†KMi).

Stilt Sandpiper – 2 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 15 July (KMi) were the first fall migrants reported.

Sanderling – 2 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 29 July (ph. KKj) were the first fall migrants reported.

Least Sandpiper – 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 29 June (ph. AHi) was the first fall migrant reported.

White-rumped Sandpiper – 2 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 12 June (†BPa) were the last spring migrants reported.

White-rumped Sandpiper – Henderson Co. 5 June 2023, Charlie Crawford

Pectoral Sandpiper – 1 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 12 July (SRe) was the first fall migrant reported.

Semipalmated Sandpiper – 6 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 12 June (†BPa) were the last spring migrants reported. 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 29 July (†BPa) was the first fall migrant reported.

Common Tern – Shelby Co.
12 June 2023, Mark Elkins

Short-billed Dowitcher – 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 26 July (DSo, DBl) was the first fall migrant reported.

Spotted Sandpiper – Noted through the season in a few counties but no report of breeding at those locations.

Solitary Sandpiper – 1 at A. J. Jolly Park, *Campbell*, 7 July (KDo) was the first fall migrant reported.

Lesser Yellowlegs – 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 5 June (ph. CCr) was the last spring migrant reported. 1 west of Edmonton, *Metcalfe*, 2 July (ph. †RSh) was the first fall migrant reported.

Greater Yellowlegs – 2 west of Guthrie, *Todd*, 26 June (ph. †AHi) were the first fall migrants reported.

Least Tern – Only small numbers, no more than 4, were recorded in *Henderson*, *Livingston*, *Fulton*, and *Ballard*. KDFWR monitoring of breeding locations on the Mississippi River reported in the neighborhood of 150 pairs on the New Madrid Bar, *Fulton*, and 50 pairs on the Middle Bar, *Hickman*. Due to water levels and disturbance, nesting success was very low with only a few chicks noted at these locations (JBr pers. comm).

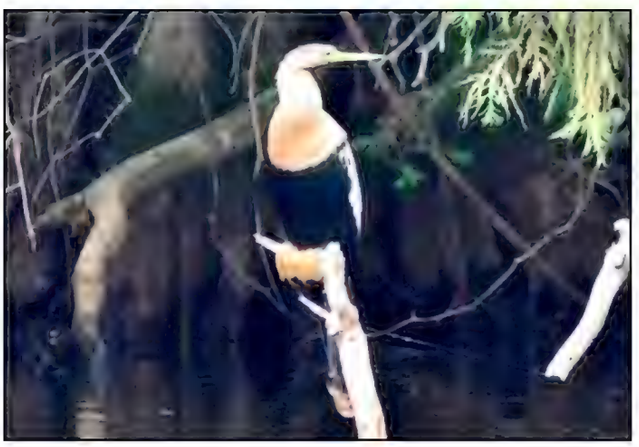
Caspian Tern – Birds were reported into late June (m.ob.) with further reports being confined to Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 9/25/30 July (SBr, MBr/DVi/JSo, JBa, ph. KFl).

Common Tern – There was one report of 5 at Equestrian Lakes, *Shelby*, 12 June (ph. †MEl).

Forster's Tern – There were two reports. 3 at Waitsboro Rec. Area, *Pulaski*, 11 June (RDe) and 1 at Taylorsville Lake, *Spencer*, 30 July (JWh).

Common Loon – There were two reports. 1 at KY Dam, *Marshall*, 10 June (MMu) and 1 on Nolin Lake, *Edmonson*, 26 June (ph. †DFe).

ANHINGA – KBRC review required. There was one report of up to 2 at Hamby Pond, *Fulton*, (ph. MGr, AHi).



Anhinga – Fulton Co.
26 July 2023, Mark Greene

American White Pelican – Four reports from western Kentucky with 15 over Grand Rivers, *Livingston*, 11 June (†BCl) being the highest number reported.

Least Bittern – Reported during the season at known breeding site in Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*.

Great Egret – 150 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, *Henderson*, 25 July (ph. †CCr) was the highest number reported.

Snowy Egret – Individual birds reported in *Trigg*, *Union*, *Calloway*, *Ballard*, *Jefferson*, *Livingston*, *Henderson*, and *Lyon* with 2 reported at Lake Barkley SRP, *Trigg*, 9 July (MTo).

Cattle Egret – Reports confined to environs of Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – Reported in *Jefferson*, *Ballard*, *Muhlenberg,* and *Marshall*.

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 50 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 2 July (EWg, MCa) was the highest number reported.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL – KBRC review required. There were three reports. 1 south of Pine Knot, *McCreary*, 27 June (ph. RTr); 1 northeast of Goshen, *Oldham*, 17 July–August 2 (ph †TBi pers. comm.); and 1 at Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, first reported 22 July (†PBl, ph. TBe, m.ob.) and continued into the fall season.

Swallow-tailed Kite – Boone Co.
11 July 2023, Travis Young

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE – KBRC review required. There was one report of a single bird west of Walton, *Boone*, 11 July (ph. †TYo).

Northern Harrier – There was one report of 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 12 June (†STy).

Mississippi Kite – Of note is the probable increase in breeding numbers in Bowling Green, *Warren*, with one report of multiple juveniles amongst a peak of 10 individuals at Grider Pond (RSh *fide* BPa).

Barn Owl – Reported in *Logan*, *Hart*, *Muhlenberg*, *Christian*, *Franklin*, *Todd*, *Taylor*, and *Wayne*.

Merlin – 1 near the 2022 nesting territory in east *Jefferson* 3 June (†BPa) was the last reported.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher – A pair near Auburn, *Logan*, (m.ob.) successfully fledged 2 young after breeding failure the previous year.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher – There was one report of a single bird captured and banded at Clarks River NWR, *Marshall*, 12 June (ph. †HCh).

Least Flycatcher – Reported at known breeding location at Black Mountain, *Harlan*, through the season (m.ob.). 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 22 July (ph. †STy, DTy) was the first migrant reported.

Bell's Vireo – Apart from one report at Melco, *Jefferson*, 12 June (†MAu) all reports were from western Kentucky.

Blue-headed Vireo – 1 northeast of Mayfield, *Graves*, 30 July (†TMc) was the only report away from the Cumberland Plateau area.

Loggerhead Shrike – Reported in *Jessamine*, *Metcalfe*, *Daviess*, *Bourbon*, *Christian*, *Scott*, *Logan*, *Barren*, *Mercer*, and *Fulton*.

Loggerhead Shrike – Jessamine Co.
3 June 2023, David Lang

Fish Crow – All reports were from western Kentucky apart from one long-staying bird at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, first reported 7 July (au. †BPa) and stayed into fall (m.ob.).

Common Raven – Reported in *Pike*, *Harlan*, *Letcher*, *Lawrence*, and *Knott*.

Bank Swallow – 250 in northwest *Fulton* 28 July (MEa, HCh) was the highest number reported.

Cliff Swallow – 250 at KY Dam, *Marshall*, 14 July (MMu) was the highest number reported.

Red-breasted Nuthatch – Reported only from known breeding location in Red River Gorge, *Wolfe*, (m.ob.).

Brown-headed Nuthatch – Reported at the known location in London, *Laurel*, (m.ob.) through the season.

Brown Creeper – There was one report of 1 south of Junction City, *Lincoln*, 6 July (†CSo).

Veery – Reported from known breeding range at Black Mountain, *Harlan*, 21 June/3 July (SBr, MBr/SPe, au. ABw).

Lark Sparrow – Henderson Co.
22 June 2023, Mary Yandell

Lark Sparrow – Reported in four locations. Up to 3 at McDonald Landing Road, *Henderson*, 4/22 June/25 July (ph. CCr/ph. †MYa/ph. CCr); 2 south of Smiths Grove, *Warren*, 17 June (†RLh); 1 northwest of Franklin, *Simpson*, 30 June (†JSo); and 1 south of Clinton, *Hickman*, 30 June (au. MGr).

Dark-eyed Junco – There were two reports away from expected breeding range in Black Mountain, *Harlan*, (m.ob.). 1 in Bowling Green, *Warren*, 19 June (†SNe) and 1 southeast of West Liberty, *Morgan*, 10 July (†RHs).

White-throated Sparrow – There were two reports. 1 in Louisville, *Jefferson*, 5 June (au. †BWr) and 1 in north *Fayette* 22 June (†DWe).

Savannah Sparrow – Reported at two locations. 4–5 in east *Fayette* 4/5 June (ph. †KBu) and 6 at Midway, *Woodford*, 8 June (ph. †KBu).

Henslow's Sparrow – Reported in 16 counties during the summer. Confirmation of breeding is needed in most of those counties, whether by photos of young or adults carrying food.

Bobolink – Largest breeding population reported at Camp Nelson National Monument, *Jessamine*, with double figures during the season (m.ob.). Post-breeding movement noted in mid-July with 120 in east *Fayette* 10 July (†MFn) the highest number reported.

Golden-winged Warbler – Only a total of 3 singing males reported at two locations surveyed in *Harlan* 10/15 June (†MPn).

Swainson's Warbler – Reported across the Cumberland Plateau and in *Marshall*.

Tennessee Warbler – There were two reports. 1 south of Independence, *Kenton*, 23 July (†DMn) was a record early fall report with a second report of 1 west of Frankfort, *Franklin*, 30 July (JBr).

Hooded Warbler – 38 at Wolf Knob DBNF, *Whitley*, 5 July (RDe) was the highest number reported.

Magnolia Warbler – There was one report of 1 at Clarks River NWR, *Marshall*, 1 June (ph. ba. HCh, m.ob.).

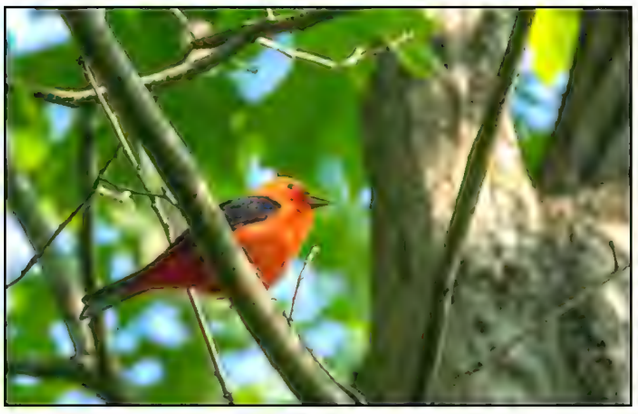
Blackburnian Warbler – There was one report of 2 at Cumberland Gap NHP, *Bell*, 12 June (SCa).

Chestnut-sided Warbler – Reported only from known breeding territory on Black Mountain, *Harlan* (m.ob.).

Black-throated Blue Warbler – 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 3 June (†BAb) was the last migrant with other reports on known breeding territory on Black Mountain, *Harlan*, (m.ob.).

Scarlet Tanager – 15 at Wolf Knob DBNF, *Whitley*, 5 July (RDe) was the highest number reported.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak – 1 north of Frankfort, *Franklin*, 9 June (ph. †JBn, JFy) was the last report away from breeding locations. Reported during the season at known breeding locations in *Boone* and *Harlan*.



Scarlet Tanager – Jefferson Co.
10 June 2023, Christine Hayden

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LOCATIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS (*Italics* indicate a county name)

Most locations are based on their eBird Hotspot Name

DBNF = Daniel Boone National Forest
NHP = National Historic Park
NWR = National Wildlife Refuge
SRP = State Resort Park
WMA = Wildlife Management Area

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STy – Steve Tyson
SWr – Sarah Wagner
TBe – Tommy Becker
TBi – Tom Biebighauser
TMc – TJ McGary
TYo – Travis Young

Common Nighthawk – Jefferson Co.
9 July 2023, Kevin Flowers

Little Blue Heron – Metcalfe Co.
30 July 2023, Rickey Shive

Least Flycatcher – Harlan Co.
3 July 2023, Andy Bowen

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON STATE PARK, SEPTEMBER 15–17, 2023

The annual meeting, which marked the 100th anniversary of Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS), got underway with an afternoon walk on Friday. Steve and Meg Brown took folks to the Audubon Wetlands, a recent acquisition of the state park.

Friday evening's meeting was held at the Audubon Museum Conference Room. KOS President, James Wheat welcomed guests and went over the agenda. Jeremy Teague introduced Steve Kistler's Bird Quiz. Attendees enjoyed trying to identify the mystery birds.

After that brain teaser, Michael Patton, from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, spoke about his research into Golden-Winged Warblers (GWWA). He is the recipient of a KOS Gordon Wilson Fund grant for his work in conjunction with the University of Maine, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Kentucky Wild. His talk focused on the GWWA life history, conservation status, and research. He described their two unique populations (Great Lakes and Appalachian) and the reasons for their decline (50% loss of population in the last 50 years) Their research goals: determine how to save them through management while identifying additional factors that may be causing decline.

J.J. Audubon State Park Naturalist Lisa Hoffman gave an informative talk about the park, which is unique in combining nature, science, art, and history. She gave a brief summary of Audubon's life in the area before he set out to record the birds of America with his art. She spoke about the history of the park and its impact on the area. The museum, which features Audubon, his life, and his work, receives about 18,000 visitors a year, while the park itself has 300,000 annual visitors.

The final item for Friday's agenda was previewing the field trips for Saturday. Some of them had to be changed due to dry conditions at certain locations.

- J.J. Audubon State Park – half day morning, Blaine Ferrell
- Audubon Wetlands – half-day morning, Ronon O'Carra
- Sandy Lee Watkins Park – half-day morning, James Wheat and Kevin Karlson
- Cane Ridge, Indiana WMA – all day, Jeremy Teague and Jeff Sole
- Land Between the Lakes, various locations – all day, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.
- J.J. Audubon State Park Bird and Nature Walk – afternoon, Steve Kistler

The Shorebirds of North America: A Natural History and Photographic Celebration – afternoon, presented by Kevin Karlson in the Audubon Museum Conference Room.

Saturday evening's program was called to order by James to conduct KOS business. First, James presented a proclamation from Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear, recognizing the KOS centenary. He unveiled a logo designed by Mary Yandell to commemorate our first 100 years. He then went over the agenda for the meeting.

Special thanks were extended to retiring board members for their considerable efforts. They have all worked hard to update our procedures and improve our technology and communication.

- Debby Tyson, as retiring Corresponding Secretary
- Meg Brown, as retiring Councillor
- Steve Brown, as retiring Councillor
- Jeff Sole, as retiring Past President

Jeremy commended James for his work, serving as President for the last 4 years – now retiring.

James presented the slate of candidates for the yearly election:

- President, Jeremy Teague
- Vice President, Donna Stricklin
- Corresponding Secretary, Courtney Teague
- Treasurer, Steve Kistler
- Recording Secretary, Janet Kistler
- Curator, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.
- Past President, James Wheat
- Councillors
  - ◊ Carol Besse
  - ◊ Kyle Bixler
  - ◊ Nancy Braun
  - ◊ David Bailey
  - ◊ Asher Higgins
  - ◊ Michael Patton
- Beckham Bird Club Representative, Win Ahrens

A motion was made and seconded to approve the slate of candidates. Motion passed unanimously.

Instead of listing the total birds seen throughout the weekend, each trip leader gave a brief summary with highlights and observations. For details, see the KOS website page for past meetings at: https://birdky.org/kosmeetings-2-past.php

Steve Kistler presented the Treasurer's Report, explaining how much money we had in each fund, and followed up with a Membership Report. KOS is in sound financial shape, with 340 members at the time of the meeting. There were no questions.

James then introduced our guest speaker, Kevin Karlson. It was his 4th time speaking at KOS meetings. He is a tour leader, wildlife photographer, and a popular guest at birding festivals, providing workshops and informative talks. He has published several books and ID guides. He is officially retired, after 45 years of birding. His theme for the night's presentation was "Why do we do the crazy stuff we do? (What caused us to get hooked on birds?)." The presentation was a summary of his passion, his career, friends, travels, associates, and experiences, accompanied with his amazing photos. He talked about his birding evolution from obsession to joyful appreciation.

After Kevin's presentation, James asked for Sunday morning field trip leaders. Brainard offered to lead a trip to the Audubon Wetlands and James to Sandy Lee Watkins Park.

The meeting was adjourned and everyone enjoyed cake (decorated with the official 100th year logo), cookies, and fellowship. Thanks to everyone who planned/ organized the 2023 Annual meeting!

Report submitted by Janet Kistler, KOS Recording Secretary

KOS Attendees, Annual Members Meeting, 2023 (alphabetical)

Last	First	Town
Ahrens	Win	Prospect
Anderson	Terry	Lawrenceburg
Avery	Bonnie	Upton/Louisville
Babberl	Lyle	Louisville
Baldwin	Elizabeth	Floyd Knobs, IN
Bender	Joyce	Frankfort
Bezold	Marsha	Midway
Braun	Nancy	Lexington
Brown	Meg	Louisville
Brown	Steve	Louisville
Brown	Valerie	Bowling Green
Bush	Laverne	Owensboro
Buster	Katey	Lexington
Butler Burt	Wendy	Columbia
Caminiti	Kathy	Burlington
Caminiti	Joe	Burlington
Carlisle	Mary Beth	Bowling Green
Chambers	Hap	Murray
Cooper	Sarah, Bo, and Wilder	Elizabethtown
Dalporto	Lisa	Bowling Green
Dennis	Dick	Louisville

KOS Attendees, Annual Members Meeting, 2023 (alphabetical, continued)

Last	First	Town
Denton	Roseanna	Science Hill
Dudko	Jon	Owensboro
Ferrell	Blaine	Bowling Green
Fisher	Colin	Lexington
Fisher	Anne	Lexington
Forman	Jon	Bowling Green
Friedman	Muz	Canmer
Fry	Joyce	Frankfort
Graham	Teresa	Greenville
Graham	Steve	Greenville
Harney	Doreen	Owensboro
Howell	Alice	Lexington
Jacobs	Jessica	Louisville
Kistler	Steve	Munfordville
Kistler	Janet	Munfordville
Kuehn	Ken	Bowling Green
Latham	Nolan	Owensboro
Lusby	Rom	Alexandria
Lusby	Mary Beth	Alexandria
McGary	Thana	Mayfield
Meyer	Pat	Louisville
Newman	Scott	Bowling Green
O'Carra	Ronan	Lexington
Olson	Cheri	Columbia
Palmer-Ball, Jr.	Brainard	Louisville
Smith	Karen L	Paducah
Sole	Carol	Stanford
Sole	Jeff	Canmer
Spalding	Pam	Louisville
Stone	Dan	Lexington

KOS Attendees, Annual Members Meeting, 2023 (alphabetical, continued)

Last	First	Town
Stone	David	Henderson
Stricklin	Donna	Madisonville
Teague	Jeremy	Calvert City
Thompson	Wendell	Owensboro
Thompson	Marilee	Owensboro
Tyson	Debby	Adairville
Tyson	Stephen	Adairville
Vellios	Barbara	Lexington
Vogel	Carl	Lexington
Wheat	James	Taylorsville
Yandell	Ben	Louisville
Yandell	Mary	Louisville

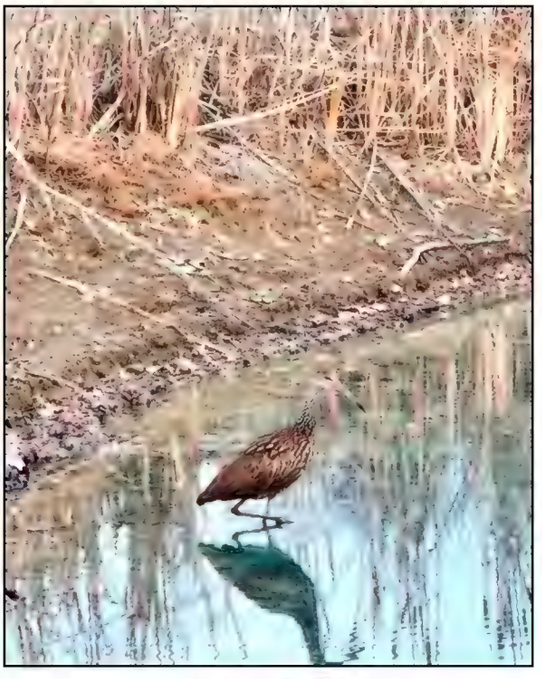
Kentucky Warbler – Jefferson Co.
9 June 2023, Steve Brown

Yellow-throated Warbler – Metcalfe Co,
4 July 2023, Rickey Shive

FIRST RECORD OF LIMPKIN (*Aramus guarauna*) IN KENTUCKY

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) is a unique wading bird, representing the only member of the Family Aramidae (Chesser 2023). The Family taxonomically lies within the Gruiformes and is more closely related to rails and cranes than herons and ibis (Chesser 2023). It is a white-speckled brown wader, similar in size to a Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), but with a long, slightly curved bill. Limpkins have a twist at the end of their bill that allows them to more easily remove Apple Snails (*Pomacea* spp.), their predominant food source, from their shells. It was originally thought that they ate Apple Snails exclusively, but they do eat other freshwater mollusks (e.g. mussels), and opportunistically will take invertebrates and rarely vertebrates (Bryan 2020).

In recent years the Limpkin has had an amazing expansion in its range. This is due in part to the introduction and range expansion of an invasive Apple Snail species (*Pomacea maculata*) that the Limpkin has taken advantage of, leading to the population expanding dramatically. Prior to 2015 there were only a few vagrant reports from eight southeastern states (eBird 2024). By 2021 a few more far-flung vagrant records were added with birds showing up in Ohio, Illinois and Minnesota (eBird 2024). The summer of 2022 was jokingly referred to as "The Hot Limpkin Summer" where Limpkins were showing up in a large swath of the east coast and mid-west (eBird 2024). By the end of the summer of 2022 every state surrounding Kentucky, apart from West Virginia, had multiple reports of Limpkin. It was only a matter of time before one showed up in the Blue-grass state.



Limpkin – Todd Co.
4 December 2022, Kevin Newswanger

In mid-December, 2022, Ray Bontrager was sent a photo taken on 4 December by Kevin Newswanger of an unknown bird near Sharon Grove, Todd County. The photo was clearly that of the first-in-state record of Limpkin, and Bontrager passed the information to the wider birding community. The bird was feeding on freshwater mussels at a farm pond and was report-ed at this location until 12 December before it pre-sumably moved on. A few days later, a Limpkin was reported at nearby Spa Lake, a few miles away, but this was not verified.

It took only a mere five months for a second report in Kentucky to be documented; moreover, Limpkins were reported from more than 20 locations in the state during 2023! Most reports were of single individuals, but up to three were present at Jacobson Park, in Fayette County. A list of the 2023 reports follows:

1) Long Point Unit Reelfoot NWR #1, Fulton Co., April–July 2023 (A. Owens et al.)
2) Lake Shelby, Shelby Co., May–Aug 2023 (T. Lonergan et al.)
3) Audubon Swamp, Henderson Co., May 2023 (J. Farmer)
4) Green River, Green Co., June 2023 (K. McCarol)

5) Vicinity of Jacobson Park, Fayette Co., July–January 2024 (K. Carey et al.) with up to 3 at one time
6) N. Bullitt Co., July 2023 (J. Fuller)
7) Long Point Unit Reelfoot NWR #2, Fulton Co. July 2023 (S. Record)
8) Dix River #1 and #1a, Mercer Co, July and September 2023 (S. Milans et al.)
9) Kentucky River, Jessamine Co., July 2023 (E. Brooking)
10) Long Point Unit Reelfoot NWR #3, Fulton Co., August 2023 (M. Greene)

Limpkin – Fayette Co.
14 August 2023, Karen Hogan

11) Energy Lake embayment, LBL,Trigg Co. September 2023 (H. Chambers)
12) Jonathan Creek, Marshall Co. September 2023 (J. Teague)
13) Cumberland River, Knox Co, September 2023 (L. Megna)
14) Sugar Bay, LBL, Trigg Co. September 2023 (H. Chambers)
15) Little Lake Park, Livingston Co., September 2023 (T. Smith)
16) Elkhorn Creek, Scott Co., September 2023 (S. Morris)
17) Bourbon Co., October 2023 (C. McFadden)
18) Wood Creek Lake, Laurel Co., October–December 2023 (A. Kayser et al.)
19) Uniontown waterfront, Union Co., November 2023, (C. Crawford) two individuals
20) Taylorsville Lake, Anderson Co., November 2023 (G. Heath)
21) Boatwright WMA, Ballard Co, December 2023 (G. Burnett)

There have been similar unprecedented reports of Limpkin in surrounding states with the Duck River (TN) CBC recording an astonishing 32 individuals 23 December 2023 (R. Stoll, *fide* B. Palmer-Ball, Jr.). A single report has even been noted in Canada. It will be interesting to follow reports to see if this expansion is sustainable or whether there will be a subsequent contraction. Anecdotally, it appears that most disappeared during the cold weather of January 2024.

Cited Sources

eBird Basic Dataset. Version EBD_relDec-2023. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Dec 2023.

Bryan, D. C. (2020). Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*), version 1.0. In Birds of the World (A. F. Poole and F. B. Gill, Editors). Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY, USA. https://doi.org/10.2173/bow.limpki.01

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— Ronan O'Carra (ronan.o.carra@birdky.org)

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NEWS AND VIEWS

Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia "Ginny" Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to KOS and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to birders between the ages of 13 and 18 who live in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition and travel to attend an American Birding Association (ABA) Summer Camp. Details about the ABA camps can be found on the ABA website.

To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundvwkingsolver.php); write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend; and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Applications should be sent to Carol Besse (csbesse@bellsouth.net). Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to KOS at a meeting, or in writing. Scholarship applications are due by May 1st each year, however grants will be subject to ABA camp's space availability.

Gordon Wilson Fund Grants Available

The Gordon Wilson Fund was established in honor of Dr. Gordon Wilson, respected Kentucky ornithologist and one of the three founders of KOS. Grants of up to $5,000 may be requested to fund research, publication costs, and environmental education projects. Members of the Society will receive preference for funding, but others are encouraged to apply. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundgordonwilson.php) or contact Jeremy Teague by mail at 379 Sir Charles Court, Calvert City, KY, 42029-7519, or via email at jeremy.teague@birdky.org.

Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports the education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to $5000, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundannestamm.php) or contact David Bailey by mail at Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund, 706 Dorsey Way, Louisville, KY 40223 , or via email at david.bailey@birdky.org.

Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Grants Available

The Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Fund supports research on birds in Kentucky with monetary awards of up to $5000. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (https://birdky.org/fundburtmonroejr.php) or contact Kate Slankard, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601 (kate.slankard@ky.gov).

Recipients of KOS grants are expected to submit research articles or summary reports, which will be published in future issues of *The Kentucky Warbler*.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky (3rd ed.) now available.

By Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

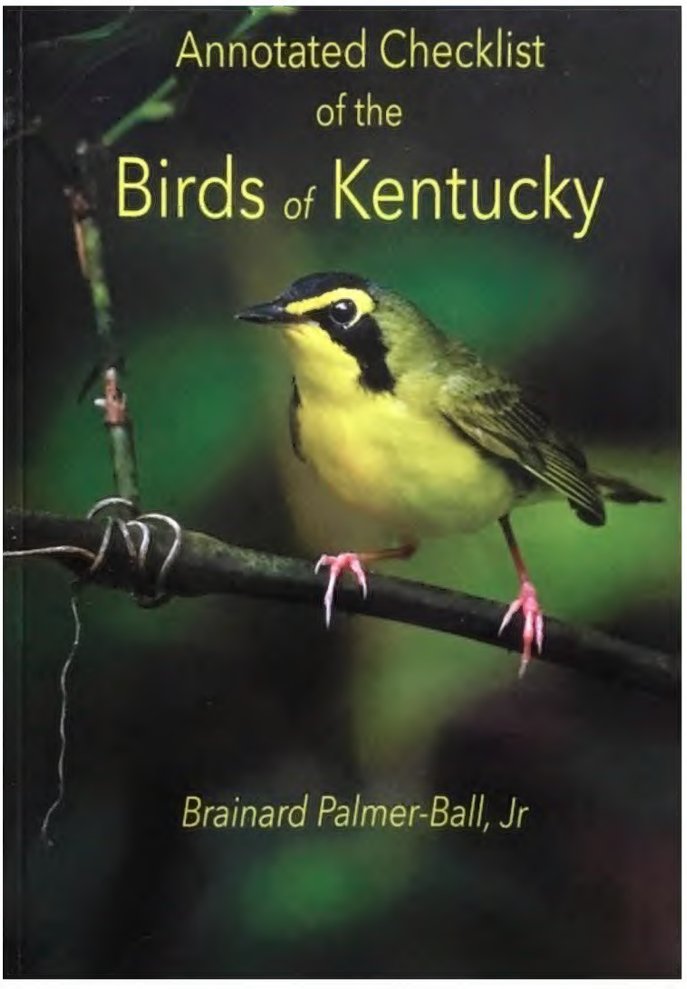
Kentucky Ornithological Society

Paperback 276 pages. 1 August 2019.

"The 3rd edition of the *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky* updates the status and abundance of 390 species that have been documented to have occurred in Kentucky. The 3rd edition has been expanded to include more detailed lists of county distribution of many less common species. Included in species descriptions are brief summaries of status, distribution, seasonal occurrence, and abundance."

– Kentucky Ornithological Society website.

This important reference is available at meetings of the society, through the online bookseller Bookshop.org at https://bookshop.org/shop/kos, and wherever books are sold (see Birdky.org for more details).



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Chestnut-sided Warbler – Harlan Co.
3 July 2023, Andy Bowen

Grasshopper Sparrow – Boone Co.
11 June 2023, Kathy Caminiti

Pectoral Sandpiper – Rockcastle Co.
21 July 2023, Roseanna Denton

Roseate Spoonbill – Jefferson Co.
23 July 2023, Christine Hayden